





## THE IRREPRESSIBLE

## CLASS CONFLICT IN COLORADO

The Struggle for the Eight-Hour Day—Its History, Significance and Failure, Culminating in the Capitalist Riots of 1904.

Written by H. J. BRIMBLE,  
Florence, Colorado, 1904.

## FIFTH EPISODE—Continued.

## TRADE UNION TYRANNY, VS. CAPITALIST.

On September 30th, the men employed at the Gold Coin mine, owned by the Woods Investment Company, were informed that they, in order to retain employment, must bring to an end their membership in the Western Federation of Miners. This attempt at intimidation was a complete failure, as not one of the men thus solicited gave up his union card. A committee of the discharged miners visited the Economic mill, owned by the same concern, and informed the millmen of what had taken place at the mine. As a consequence, the millmen quitted the mill in a body.

The action of the Woods Investment Company was prompted by the Mine-Owners' Association, with which the Woods people were connected. One hears a great deal about "trades union tyranny" and the "open shop" when the old line trades union gets in its work. Opposition to union tactics doesn't keep the exploiters from doing the very thing which they condemn in others. Sauce for the goose, in this case, is not sauce for the gander.

## FOURTH OF JULY ORATORY IN PRACTICE.

Well known, the preservers of law and order are ardent patriots. We have noticed the convulsions into which they were thrown at the bare thought of the flag-desecration on the part of the Western Federation of Miners. One year ago from July 4th, Governor Peabody and General Bell, with a brilliant retinue, visited the city of Florence, and there they expatiated upon the blessings conferred upon all American citizens by that admirable document, the Constitution. I regret exceedingly that I failed to preserve the speeches delivered on the anniversary of American independence, as they would look well alongside the following statement of John M. Glover:

"I was in the office of District Attorney Trowbridge," said Mr. Glover, "when Tom McClelland and Willis V. Elliot were preparing information against Editor Kyrer for libel. Referring to the seizure of the office of the Victor Record, I said to McClelland: 'You people apparently have not much respect for the Constitution.' That was a blow at the freedom of the press," to which McClelland replied: 'To hell with the constitution. We are going by the Governor's orders.' To which I replied: 'We will have some of you fellows pleading for your liberty before a jury where the Governor's orders don't go.' McClelland replied: 'We will take care of that when we come to it.' Elliot was present and heard this conversation."

Upon the publication of the foregoing McClelland became frightened and denied the allegations of Mr. Glover; whereupon the last named came out with a reiteration of his charges, and there the matter stands.

## WHAT McCLELLAND'S "TO HELL WITH THE CONSTITUTION" MEANS.

Those who have not looked into the question may feel somewhat shocked at McClelland's emphatic reference to the venerable document that is supposed to be the chart by which the course of the ship of State is steered. I am not, as McClelland is, simply stating a fact. He took his orders from Peabody—the laws were not thought of—and Peabody took his orders from the men who put him in office. The Constitution and laws are as if they did not exist, when the will of the capitalist class lies the other way.

If necessary I could fill pages with instances in which the officers of the National Guard and others connected with the State administration have shown their contempt for the document which, at other times, fills them with pride. It isn't necessary to dwell upon this point, as the actions of Peabody and his men speak louder than could any word of mine.

A Couer D'Alene miner, John Mitchell, was arrested on October 14th for carrying concealed weapons. He was taken before a Justice and fined \$50.00. This outrageous treatment of one of its "loyal workmen" was too much for the Mine-Owners' Association, and on the following day Mayor French remitted the fine. This action incensed Marshal O'Connell, and high words passed between him and the Mayor.

## THE UNION GOES INTO POLITICS.

In election of 1903, P. J. Devault, one of the leading Democrats in the district, was placed in nomination for the office of county assessor, upon an independent ticket, as the nominees of the Democrats and Republicans for that office were not looked upon with favor by the union element. Mr. Devault was elected by a substantial majority. With this exception, the Democrats came out ahead.

Mr. Devault's election proved one thing, and that is that the workers are masters of the situation whenever they choose to get together. Otherwise, Mr. Devault's victory meant as much to the workers as does that of any "conservative and conscientious" man.

## AN ALMOST INCREDIBLE OUTRAGE.

Most incredible outrage was committed by the military while services were being held over the remains of William Dodsworth, president of Victor Miners' Union No. 32, who was killed on one of the Stratton properties. The members of No. 32, with representatives from every union in the district, had gathered in their hall to say farewell to their deceased brother, when a squad of cavalry, headed by an ex-convict named Vannick,

galloped to the Miners Union hall and dismounted, laughing and jesting. Advancing up the stairway and into the hall, with hats on and sidearms jingling, the troopers seized, from among the mourners, Charles G. Kennison, president of Union No. 40, who was pointed out by the ex-convict leader, and marched to the bull-pen.

## THE FAMOUS SPIKE-PULLING EPISODE.

On the night of November 17th an attempt was made to wreck a train on the Florence and Cripple Creek Railroad. Of all the incidents growing out of the struggle in the Cripple Creek district, none is of greater interest than that about to be related. The significance which attaches to the case comes from the fact that the matter was sifted to the very bottom, and, sad to relate, the Governor and his friends, like Humpty-Dumpty, "had a sad fall." Upon the attempt being reported to General Bell, he sent out thirty of his men in citizens clothes to aid in the work of bringing the criminals to justice. C. H. McKinney and P. H. Mullaney were arrested, and then the military went in search of Thomas Foster. Upon arriving at his home in Altman, Mrs. Foster refused to admit the minions of the law, so they proceeded to break their way in. Foster, however, was not at home, and when the men heard that the military were looking for him, he at once gave himself into the custody of the sheriff, that he might save himself from the bull-pen and the tender mercies of the soldiers.

There was considerable talk of lynching the prisoners not, he it said, on the part of the "lawless" union miners, but by the men who have so many times, by their words and actions, shown themselves to be, really and truly, upholders of law and preservers of order. Why this lynching affair spent itself in talk will be apparent when we take up the trials of the men charged with the spike-pulling.

## THE VINDICATOR EXPLOSION.

Another of those mysterious events which, I trust, will be cleared up some day, occurred in the Vindicator mine on November 21st. Charles McCormick, superintendent, and Melvin Beck, shift boss, were almost instantly killed by an explosion of dynamite, at the 600 foot level of the mine. As might be expected, the union miners were charged with the crime. It was said that an infernal machine had been placed in the shaft and that the cage, dashing downward, caused the explosion that brought about the death of the men. Nothing that might be identified as part of an infernal machine was found and the only thing by which the assassin—if assassin there was—could be traced was the print of a new No. 8 boot or shoe. Blood-hounds were sent for, with no result. With the brilliancy for which they are remarkable, the heads of the military seized a number of men and eighteen of those favored with feet that necessitated the wearing of No. 8 shoes were placed in the bull-pen, pending an examination. The coroner's jury, after an exhaustive examination of the mine and its premises and many witnesses, brought in a verdict to the effect that they were unable to determine the exact cause of the explosion, and, after a lapse of nine months, nothing has been brought to light whereby this verdict may be modified. Still, in their well-known fashion, the opponents of the miners are talking as if there were no question as to the guilty parties, the question of evidence concerning them but little.

## MOTHER DEFIES MILITARY TO TAKE HER BOYS.

To show their mettle, the military, about this time, arrested five little boys and placed them in the bull-pen, and supplemented this proceeding of an attempt to take two of the children of the late William Dodsworth, the funeral ceremonies over whose remains had been rudely interrupted by the gallant warriors, as we have noted. Mrs. Dodsworth, however, locked the door against the soldiers, and defied them to take the children. Eventually the men rode away without the boys.

On the night of the 23rd, the safe in the office of Miners Union No. 33 was unlocked and robbed. It contained \$100.00 belonging to the Newsboys' Union of Victor and \$75.00 belonging to Miners' Union No. 32, and held in trust by the secretary. The combination of the safe was known to but two persons, John Geary, secretary of the union, and Major Naylor, of the National Guard. All the money, books, and papers disappeared without the slightest scratch on the safe. The torn leaves of the new ledger, with some other papers were found in another part of the hall.

"The ledger was new, and Mr. Geary had just finished the work of posting it two or three days before. Mr. Geary was almost prostrated by the affair.

"The military, through an oversight, made no arrests, neither did the mine-owners offer a reward. The union boys were very indignant and followed every possible clue, but at this writing the robbery of the union safe still remains a mystery."

## "COURT HAS NO JURISDICTION."

On November 30th the friends of a number of men held by the military appealed to Judge Seeds, in the District Court, and writs of habeas corpus calling for the persons of W. B. Easterly, Victor Poole, Patrick Mullaney, C. G. Kennison, W. F. Davis and Sherman Parker were issued and made returnable on Thursday, December 3rd, at 1 p. m. Two days later the representatives of the military filed an answer which was, in substance, that the court had no jurisdiction in the matter as the Governor's orders endowed the military with supreme power in the territory under occupation. Notwithstanding this assumption of power which the courts might not question, the military produced P. H. Mullaney, W. B. Easterly and Victor Poole in answer to the writ. It developed, in the course of argument, that the respondents were not unwilling to comply with the expected order of the court in the case of Mullaney, Easterly and Poole, but that, in the cases of Parker, Davis and Kennison, informations had been filed charging them with train-wrecking and these men would be held until they were demanded by the sheriff on proper capias.

It was ordered by the court that, under this condition, the men be turned over to the sheriff, and then came the farce of liberating Easterly, Poole and Mullaney. Upon the order of Judge Seeds, Colonel Verdeckberg announced to the military escort that the men were free, but, when Mullaney and Poole reached the foot of the stairs the latter were once more arrested by

soldiers and detectives and marched off to the bull-pen. The same day Stephen Adams, W. F. Davis, C. G. Kennison and Sherman Parker were arrested, charged with the murder of Charles McCormick and Melvin Beck, upon information filed by Manager Campbell of the Vindicator mine.

## HOW PEABODY DISPENSED "LAW."

Governor Peabody, on December 4, 1903, declared Teller County to be in a state of insurrection and rebellion, and, that the lives and property of unoffending citizens might not be imperilled by the rebels, martial law was declared. One is tempted to enquire as to the variety of law under which the county had been ruled since the coming of the troops, but the best way to dispose of the matter is to let the facts speak for themselves.

One of the first acts of the now supreme military was to notify the editor of the "Victor Daily Record" that the paper must no longer be used to publish the official statements of the Western Federation of Miners, and, furthermore, Mr. Kyrer was informed that his paper would be suppressed and put out of business if anything not agreeable to the military appeared in its columns. To show his authority, Major Naylor ordered an editorial then in the forms suppressed. From that time forward the "Record" existed by the grace of the military censor.

## MORE CAPITALIST "RESPECT FOR THE COURTS."

Governor Peabody and his Attorney-General, N. C. Miller, had taken umbrage at the action of Judge Seeds in the habeas corpus cases, and, with the tact for which they are famous, had hastened to serve their masters by criticizing another of the judges whom they had been unable to intimidate. The nature of these criticisms, offensive in the extreme and entirely uncalled for, appear from the statement of Judge Seeds, which is given in part:

## "To the Public:

"My attention having been called to certain interviews of the Governor and the Attorney-General of this State, so generally reported in the public press, that I am constrained to believe the officers to be correctly quoted. I realize fully the delicacy of one occupying a judicial position in making public comment as to official acts. However, when the chief executive and Attorney-General of the State, particularly in the times of public excitement, make declarations so flagrantly opposed to the recorded truth, it becomes my duty, both to myself and to the public, to make a statement of facts.

"It is reported in these papers that the Governor has issued the following orders: 'Re-arrest the men as soon as they are given their liberty on habeas corpus and hold them at Camp Goldfield until further instructions. I am determined that these men shall not go free without trial.'

"Further, that the Attorney-General is reported to have said: 'The chief executive is of the firm opinion that it will be impossible to have the miners union officials tried on the informations filed against them while Seeds holds court in the district.'

"Again: 'If these men are given their freedom without trial, radical steps will have to be taken.'

"Again: 'There seems no special reason why the cases should be rushed through. It will be impossible for them to be fairly presented, and when they are fairness will be done, judging from the present status of affairs.'

"I find also the following language attributed to Attorney-General Miller: 'The Governor and his attorneys will try to prevent an immediate hearing of the cases, as they say, to permit the people to become composed. Their hope lies in the fact that Judge Seeds will leave the district January 1st, giving up his post temporarily to Judge Lewis.'

## PEABODY CONDEMNED BY JUDGE SEEDS.

The reader's attention is called to the fact that Judge Lewis is the choice of Governor Peabody and his attorneys. This should be borne in mind, as it has an important bearing on the one case which the miners and the State fought to a finish. We will pass over the outrages and cowardly insinuations made against Judge Seeds by the Governor and his Attorney-General without comment and let the judge speak for himself.

After stating, with more charity than the case seems to warrant, that, in his opinion, the facts and circumstances must have been misrepresented to his critics, Judge Seeds gives a verbatim report of the proceedings in the cases, that the Governor might be informed as to what he was talking about, and then goes on to say that:

"At no time since the advent of the military into this district has any prisoner charged with crime by that authority been discharged or released by this court under a habeas corpus proceeding or otherwise, and in all cases where discharge has been granted by habeas corpus it has been purely for the lack of any information authorizing or even suggesting to the court the commission of any offense or the violation of any public law on the part of the individual detained.

"It will be observed in the proceedings just had that neither the military nor the legal representatives of the Governor offered or presented complaint as to the commission of any offense upon the part of any of the prisoners discharged, while in the case of all those prisoners wherein any complaint was made the prisoners were arrested and committed under capias issued from this court. As to the State suggesting the rushing of trials in these cases, I desire to say that in all cases bonds are made returnable on the first day of the next term of court, which convenes the first Tuesday in February next. This is true in all these cases without exception, and there has not been an intimation on the part of the counsel for the State or the legal representatives of the Governor or the defendants, or any one on their behalf, suggesting a trial prior to that time.

"It will be seen from this statement of facts that there could be no foundation for the quoted comments of the State officials unless it be the decision of this court in the habeas corpus cases of some weeks since, and my conviction at that time I must re-affirm and reiterate.

"(Signed)

William P. Seeds."

## A REFUTATION THAT REQUIRES NO ADDITION.

It is unnecessary to add anything to this refutation of the charges brought against the judge by the State officials, except to say that since that time they have not stopped at mere

criticisms, but have ridden rough-shod over the courts that opposed them, until brought to a halt by the appeal of C. H. Moyer to Judge Thayer, in the United States District Court, when, being brought face to face with the entire country, Peabody and his friends gave the lie to all their pretensions and assumptions by turning Moyer loose and declining the challenge of their opponents.

It will be remembered that when Victor Poole was released by Judge Seeds he was immediately re-arrested by the military. The Governor's responsibility in this case is established beyond all question by the statement of Judge Seeds.

Frank J. Hanks, on December 10th, made application in the District Court for a writ of habeas corpus in the case of Victor Poole. The prisoner being in custody of the sheriff, the defendants being Colonel Verdeckberg, Major Naylor, Major McClelland and Sheriff Robertson, Governor Peabody, in this case, issued a proclamation that is astonishing, as it suspends the writ of habeas corpus in the case of a single individual. The concluding paragraph of that notable production reads as follows:

## PEABODY'S PROCLAMATION SUSPENDING HABEAS CORPUS.

"Now, therefore I, James H. Peabody, Governor of the State of Colorado, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the State of Colorado and the laws thereof, do hereby declare and proclaim that in my judgment the public safety especially requires that the privileges of the writ of habeas corpus be suspended in this case, to wit, in the case of Victor Poole, aforesaid, and I further direct that the said writ of habeas corpus be suspended in his case until further orders by me.

## "James H. Peabody."

S. D. Crump, attorney for the respondents, appeared in court at the hour set for the return and stated that, under the conditions obtaining in the district, the military officers maintained that they would recognize no authority but that of the Governor, and, as a matter of course, they would hold the prisoner. Judge Seeds gave the respondents until 2 o'clock the next day to file information against the prisoner. When the case was resumed the judge declined to recognize the power assumed by the military and ordered the release of the petitioner, who, however, was held by his captors in defiance of the order of the court. Preparations were made by Poole's attorneys to bring the matter before the Supreme Court, and at this point the Governor and his Attorney-General put themselves on record as being a prize pair of asses, or, if not that, then of estimating the intelligence of the people of the State as being lower than that of men of the stone age.

## PEABODY INSULTS COLORADO'S INTELLIGENCE.

The Governor, discussing the proposed action of the miners, declared that Poole had no grounds for an application to the Supreme Court. Hear him:

"The miners won in the District Court, Judge Seeds holding that Victor Poole must be produced in court. Poole was not produced, of course. Yet the victory was theirs, and I fail to see wherein they have a right to appeal,"—and the Attorney-General:

"Victor Poole won his case in the court below, and it does not seem to me that he has anything to appeal from. If he had been refused a writ, he would have been in a position to appeal. If the Supreme Court honored the application, it would adopt the precedent that the victorious party in a court below could appeal. I do not believe that any such precedent will be established."

It is almost incredible that some men could make such statements, in view of the facts in the case, expecting other sane men to believe them. The victorious party referred to had not been produced in court in response to the writ issued by Judge Seeds, and, furthermore, was not released upon the order of the court, but was held in the bull-pen, until such time as the Governor should see fit to set him free. In consequence of this tremendous victory, he was to be deprived of all right of appeal to the Supreme Court.

(To Be Continued Next Week.)

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## FALL RIVER SITUATION

(Continued from page 1)

factured 893,054,560 yards of print cloths last year. It is estimated that the Fall River mills have more than one-seventh of all the spindles in the country and nearly one-quarter of all in New England. They manufacture over three-quarters of all the print cloths. The city has more spindles than any State in the Union other than Massachusetts. Until a few years ago it had as many spindles as all the Southern States combined and twice as many as any other city in the United States.

It is an interesting fact that when all the Fall River mills are running under normal conditions they weave each day more than fifteen hundred miles of cloth, or over two miles each minute of the working day.

The manufacturers make a holler about bad business conditions, but, true to their capitalist instincts, they conveniently forget about the profits they have been making right along as shown by a statement compiled by the leading brokerage firm of G. M. Haffards a short time ago, setting forth the dividends paid during the past fifteen years. In this table it is shown that the Troy mill averaged 20.46 per cent on \$300,000 capital, which means that the stockholders have received their money back three times over as the total amounts to 307 per cent on the original investment. The Union has paid a total of 215 1-2 per cent, or an annual dividend of 14.3 per cent, and carries besides a surplus of 250,000 dollars. The Bourne plants from 1889 to 1902 inclusive, paid a total of 185 an annual of 13.3 per cent. In 1893, this plant was re-capitalized and a dividend of forty-nine and one-half per cent, including one of stock, was paid to the shareholders. The average dividend of the Seacomet has been 6.43 and of the Sagamore, 7.36, a total of ninety-two and one-half and 109 respectively. The Arkwright, which was started less than five years ago, has paid an average of 5.25 and increased its plant and its capital out of its profits besides. Taking thirty-three of the Fall River plants the compiler of the table gives the yearly average dividend of the lot as follows: 1889, 7.46; 1890, 6.9; 1891, 5.6; 1892, 8.3; 1893, 7.4; 1894, 5.2; 1895, 7.9; 1896, 6.4; 1897, 6.8; 1898, 2.4; 1899, 5; 1900, 8; 1901, 5.5; 1902, 6.6; 1903, 6.9.

All of them cut wages ten per cent last winter, although the dividends, not counting the other profits which are not shown up as dividends, alone showed a larger interest than could be obtained for the same amount in any of the banks. The "labor leaders" then advised the operatives to accept the cut for "harmony" sake. All these mills have since added new machinery and made various improvements in the buildings and are even now putting in improved devices to increase the speed and productivity of the machines and get a larger relative product from the labor of the employees. Yet they ask the operatives to submit to another cut of twelve and one-half per cent, holding up the bog of "Southern consumption" and "depressed trade" to show that they cannot "afford" to pay any more.

Thus, the fight goes on, the operatives struggling to resist further degradation and the manufacturers striving to push them down nearer to the standard at which they hope to have them by the time the competition will not be with the mills of the South, which the North-erners, themselves, to a great extent, own, but with the coolie-manned mills which will spring up with American machinery, in China and Manchuria as soon as the road is clear for capitalist development in the East. Of course, those who believe in capitalism and accept it as the real thing, should have no kick coming over the attempt to reduce them to the low standard which their masters must needs require of them if they, the masters—private owners of the machinery of production—are to retain their economic domination over the working class and continue to live off the profits ground from the hides of their wage slaves. This, however, is contingent upon the victims knowing what capitalism is and still accepting it with all its insane lack of system, as the correct form of society.

The majority of the Fall River operatives has no knowledge of what capitalism is or means. They have, in fact, been taught to accept it as a finality, without question. They have been organized in a trades union founded upon capitalist principles, recognizing the system as just and the scramble for profits a correct and right procedure, admitting the "right" of private ownership in the means of production and believing that they, the producers of all wealth, were only entitled to a "fair day's wages for a fair day's work." What that "fair day's wages" amounted to may be judged from the figures given by the manufacturers in an attempt to show that the strikers were not receiving such starvation wages as had been talked of. The figures show that in one of the best mills in the city

during the week ending June 25, twenty-eight weavers, running fourteen looms each, averaged \$9.61 for the week, five sixteen-loom weavers averaged \$11.07, one eight-loom weaver made \$5.38, one ten-loom weaver made \$6.77, and one twelve-loom weaver made \$7.90, the last three learners. In the week of July 2, twenty-four fourteen-loom weavers averaged \$9.52 each, or sixty-eight cents per loom.

In the week of July 16, twenty-nine fourteen-loom weavers averaged \$9.65 per week, five sixteen-loom weavers averaged \$10.32, one eight-loom weaver made \$5.24, one ten-loom weaver made \$6.61, and one twelve-loom weaver made \$7.46.

In the week ending July 23, twenty-nine fourteen-loom weavers made an average of \$9.67 each, or an average of sixty-nine cents per loom; five sixteen-loom weavers made an average of \$10.88, one eight-loom weaver made \$5.08, one ten-loom weaver made \$6.58, and one twelve-loom weaver \$8.12. The average for the fourteen-loom sections for the month was \$9.66, and for sixteen-loom sections \$10.60.

This is extra high wages from a "good" mill running full time. The fact is most of the weavers have not averaged \$5 per week in the last two years, when their pay for the year round is considered. Loomfixers in some mills care, for as many as 150 looms for \$10.50 per week.

But the cost of living instead of being reduced has gone up as the following, which is John M. Dean's price lists for the year 1897 and 1904, will show:

1897—Granulated sugar, twenty-one pounds for \$1.00; 1904—seventeen and one-half pounds.

1897—Best N. O. Molasses, gallon, forty-five cents; 1904—forty-eight cents.

1897—Best butter, twenty-four cents per pound; 1904—twenty-seven cents.

1897—Best butter, four and one-half pounds for \$1.00; 1904—three and three-quarter pounds.

1897—Citron, fifteen cents per pound; 1904—eighteen cents.

1897—Cleaned currants, eight cents per pound; 1904—nine cents.

1897—Cleaned Sultan's raisins, twelve cents per pound; 1904—fifteen cents.

1897—Evaporated apples, five cents per pound; 1904—twelve cents.

1897—Pork, six cents; lard, seven cents; 1904—twelve and ten cents.

1897—Five pound rail lard, thirty cents; 1904—fifty cents.

1897—Hams, ten cents; bacon, twelve cents; 1904—fourteen and fifteen to twenty cents per pound.

1897—Codfish, six cents per pound; 1904—eight cents.

1897—Table salt, eight, twelve and twenty cents per box; 1904—ten, fifteen and twenty-three.

1897—Graham flour, three cents per pound, ten for twenty-five cents; 1904—four cents, ten for thirty cents.

1897—Pea beans, five cents per quart; Marrow beans, six; 1904—eight and twelve cents.

1897—Marrow beans, per peck, forty-five cents; 1904—ninety cents.

1897—Yellow eye beans, six per quart; peck, forty-five cents; 1904—twelve and ninety cents.

1897—Red Kidney beans, six and forty-five cents; 1904—thirteen and \$1.00.

1897—Green peas, five; Split peas, six per quart; 1904—seven and nine cents.

1897—Black pepper, seventeen; white, twenty cents per pound; 1904—twenty-five and thirty-three cents.

1898—Pure Cream Tartar, thirty cents per pound; 1904—thirty-five cents.

1897—Best Kerosene Oil, ten cents per gallon; 1904—seventeen cents.

1897—Gold Medal flour, \$5.50 per barrel; 1904—\$7.50.

1897—Gold Medal flour, seventy-two cents per bag; 1904—ninety-five cents.

1897—Benton's best flour, \$5.50 per barrel; 1904—\$6.75.

1897—Benton's best flour, per bag, seventy-two cents; 1904—eighty-five cents.

Goods to the amount of \$14.72 on this list at 1897 prices, would at the 1904 price cost the purchaser \$19.23.

The mill workers are reaping the fruits of capitalism and wondering why the fruit turns to ashes in their mouths. The operatives have shown splendidly that they possess considerable solidarity; and are willing to fight hard against further degradation, but if they are to allow themselves to continue to uphold capitalism and pin their faith to a pure and simple trades union which admits the "right" of the boss to skin them as long as he doesn't skin them too much—on the economic field, while voting the governmental power into the hands of their masters on the political field, they will have gained nothing from this struggle but another bitter lesson in the school of experience.

Knowing this and being aware that those of them who are organized are members of the United Textile Workers, affiliated with the "great" A. F. of L., which has given them a jolly and paltry assessment of \$50,000, and that those operatives and the unorganized ones as

well, have been and are looking to the "leaders" of this United Textile Workers for advice and guidance, leads one to bring into the limelight the attitude and language of those "leaders" during the present great struggle which is so pregnant with opportunities for the proper education of the workers involved, to a knowledge of the class struggle and its causes and how to abolish them. One would naturally expect that such men, granting them to be intelligent and honest, being in the forefront of such a struggle and having the confidence of the workers, would take advantage of the situation to point out the reason why of the conflict. Would show them how the material interests of the capitalists demand more profits, which can only be obtained by lessening the cost of production through improved machinery, intensified labor and lower wages, as illustrated in the statement of President Borden, of the Manufacturers, whose "sympathies" are with the strikers but who, "for business reasons," is compelled to oppose them. Would show them that it is a class fight with other class on top because of its private ownership of the machinery of production, consequent control over our opportunities to labor and its ability to use the powers of government whenever it needed to do so.

Would teach them that this struggle is a part of capitalism and will become keener as time goes on. Would explain that there should be something more than mere resistance of oppression, there should be also effort to build up an intelligent organization of the working class recognizing no "mutual interests," no "brotherhood" between the robber and the robbed class, and having for its final aim the abolition of the system of private ownership of capital and production for profit which now makes resistance to capitalist oppression necessary.

Would admonish them against the tricks of the capitalist political henchmen and warn them not to be carried off their feet by an anti-Bates crusade intended to blur the class struggle, hide the real cause of their misery and "con" them into again supporting capitalism at the ballot box under the guise of a "good man."

It cannot be said that those are not aware that this would be the proper course to pursue were they to honestly conserve the interests of the operatives and the writer feels free to claim that they have deliberately avoided it. We find President Golden, of the United Textile Workers, in his address at the Lowell Convention on October 18, delivering the following:

"In order to meet this depression in our industry, the manufacturers have tried many remedies; millions of spindles have been idle from time to time, and in consequence those whose wages are not very large at the best of times have been sorely tried during the period of curtailment. Nevertheless, we are at all times willing to share a part of the burden, provided the plans adopted will tend in the course of time to bring about some relief. Our contention is that in order to bring about a demand for goods, of which there is already an overabundance, you must curtail its production."

"A more liberal policy will have to be adopted, especially by our northern mill men, and the craze for cheap machinery and cheap help must be abandoned. We have textile operatives in this country just as skilled and ingenious as there are in the world, providing they are only utilized to the best advantage."

The electric "stop motion" the increased number of looms and the enormous surplus product removes the "burden of depression from the bosses as their profits show, but the exploited wage slaves who get less than \$400 a year, and who have been robbed of that surplus, are told by their own president and "leader" that they are to be "at all times willing to share a part of the burden" by being willing to stand for curtailment and give the boss a chance to keep up his standard (what tommyrot!).

Again, we find James Tansey, president of the Fall River Textile Council interviewed by a newspaper man, giving vent to the following:

"The position of the strikers is simply this," said Mr. Tansey. "We believe the manufacturers were not justified in reducing the wages twelve and one-half per cent, as they have done. A reduction in wages never was and never will be a remedy for a depressed state of the cotton cloth market. I am decidedly in favor of the enactment of a working hour law uniform in all States. I do not speak thus from any selfish motive. I have no desire to curtail another man's chance to make money, but I honestly believe there is room enough for all the mills in this country to run on a paying basis, working with reasonable hours of labor. In the South men are working for little or nothing. I am not disputing the fact that the manufacturers here in Fall River lost money last year, but, even so, a reduction of wages is not the remedy."

What wisdom! And similar utterances have been let loose by the other so-called leaders, Hibbert, Jackson,

Whitehead, et. al. Is it any wonder that the operatives do not know what they are up against or that one is led to express the fear that they may fall to profit by their present experience? Had the thousands who were carried away by the anti-Bates cry on election day, voted for Douglas, had knowledge enough to show that they had awakened to their class interests, by voting the ticket of the Socialist Labor Party, what a thrill of genuine alarm would have been sent down the spines of the capitalist class! But, no, here again their trusted (mis) leaders were found lined up in the "flying wedge" movement to help elect the millionaire capitalist whose "3.50" shoes needed advertising, and incidentally playing into the hands of the boss of the Republican machine, Henry Cabbage Lodge, by removing Bates from his political path.

Whatever else be the outcome of the present struggle, those of us who are members of the Socialist Labor Party or the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, who can reach the operatives, should see to it that literature is gotten into their hands which will post them on the class struggle, open their eyes to the false training they have been accepting from their misleaders and teach them to realize that only through the new trades unionism of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance on the economic field, and the working class action of the Socialist Labor Party on the political, can we hope to get into a position either to resist capitalist aggression temporarily or gain final emancipation from the thralldom of the wage slave system and become free men and women enjoying the equivalent of the full product of our labor under the glorious system of the Co-operative Commonwealth.

WEAVER.

N. Y. S. E. C.

Meeting held at headquarters, Daily People building, December 10. Santos, Wegener and Kilm absent. Minutes approved as read.

Communications: From Section Rensselaer County, copy of rules and regulations to govern that body, submitted for approval. Referred to committee consisting of Kuhn and Ebert. From Section Rensselaer County requesting a more exact statement of their position in the Boland-Deane and Passonno-Boland cases than that ordered sent by this committee at the previous meeting. Pursuant to this request, the following answer was formulated:

1. The action of the N. Y. S. E. C. in dismissing the case of Boland-Deane and Passonno-Boland on appeal, re-establishes the condition existing before these cases came before the Section. — 2. The cases must be re-tried if the complainants so desire, but the complainants are not compelled to move a retrial. — 3. The Section is not opposed to take any action until the complainants move in the matter.

From Section Rensselaer, nominating James Connolly, Troy, N. Y., Boris Reinstein, Buffalo, N. Y., Charles Zolot, Peekskill, N. Y., and Anton Mettler for member of the E. N. C. from New York State. From Section New York nominating Adam Moren. From organizer Section Onondaga County (Syracuse) on underhand work of bogus Socialists and stating that special meeting will be held to nominate member of N. E. C.

The Secretary was instructed to send out call for general vote on nominations for member of N. E. C., as soon as time limit set therefore expires—this vote to be in on December 28. He was also instructed to send pledge required, to all candidates. The following financial report for November was read and accepted:

Receipts: Due stamps, \$14.40; campaign fund, \$109.93; De Leon, returned from tour, \$7.44; mileage, \$30.00. Total \$132.37.

Expenditures: Agitation (speakers), \$80.32; National Agitation Fund (Bohn tour), \$25.00; N. E. C. on campaign fund, \$24.22; Labor News Co. (campaign literature), \$14.24; Daily People (cut of ballot), 90 cents; postage and sundries, 93 cents. Total, \$145.61. Deficit, \$13.24.

The meeting then adjourned.

J. Ebert, Secretary.

[Note, since the above meeting the following additional nominations for member of N. E. C., were received: Scandinavian Section, Bengt Anderson, New York City; Section Monroe County, J. J. Kimmally, New York City, and section Westchester County, Peter Jacobson.]

GREATER BOSTON, ATTENTION.

Comrade William H. Carroll will lecture in the interest of the S. T. & L. A. at headquarters, 1165 Tremont street, Sunday, December 18, at 7.30 o'clock. Subject:—The New Trades Union.

All members are requested to attend and bring any friends they can.

C. H. Burnham, Recording Secretary.

Watch the label on your paper. That will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second the day, third the year.

## BOHN IN INDIANA

(Continued from page 1.)

government and politics and wage slavery and the hope which science holds out to the workers—the Socialist Republic. They were ready to be "bored from within" by Socialists who had not lost their self respect to get the chance to bore. To the meeting which I addressed came a striker in tattered coat and shoes asking for funds to carry him South, where he "could be in a hay-pile till summer." "If you can't help me," he said, "take my card back, it's no good to me." Will he vote for wage slavery again?

We lost votes in Marion. We lost many subscribers to the Weekly People. But did we lose otherwise? Can we lose, with such men and principles as fought that fight? The thought makes the blood hot. It is the same old story. A few determined men against a world made brutally ignorant by class rule. A host hang about in the rear and say in whispers that they agree but that they will take an easier road to victory. And the few grit their teeth, take hold of one another's hands and press on.

It was a real pleasure to meet in Marion a Comrade who has been in the fight ever since Socialism has been known in this country. It was about the year 1880, that Comrade Kohlenberg told the glass workers of Philadelphia that their weak-kneed pure and simple movement must give way to a class conscious movement. And true blue he has been ever since. Always ready to aid the full extent of his ability, always urging his principles upon everyone he meets, he is one of that all too small number of Germans who really understand the needs of the situation here in America.

Auf wiedersehen, Marion!

Evansville and Indianapolis were covered last week and should have been mentioned in the last report. Evansville is composed almost entirely of Germans and needs to have their sturdy strength enlivened by an influx of young men. Against great odds they have maintained successful agitation. The vote of Evansville was encouraging and the future will bring, undoubtedly, complete rewards for past efforts.

When I saw Section Indianapolis the mystery of "Parryism" was solved. With a hornet's nest under the eaves of his own home, he may be excused for running about the country crying "fire."

In Muncie we organized the Section anew. Now that the right men have been located and have given faithful promise to the representative of the N. E. C. to do their utmost for the movement in Muncie, I have no fears for the organization there. And the real thing, Heaven knows, is needed there. The organizer of the S. P. local, having been a "Socialist" since hearing Debs, said last September that "all spiritualists should be Socialists," and is now writing a book on his new found theme. It is entitled, he tells me "The Curse of Greed for Gold," or "The Sorrows of the Afflicted." The S. P. local, with such a burden to carry, has disbanded, of course. Several of their working class members are on the point of becoming members of our new Section.

The open shop system is beginning to prevail in Muncie. I visited a "works" where a sign as large as a Casaretti's advertisement warned all "labor agitators" to be gone. Going in unnoticed I talked with groups of men here and there. Good molders in that shop can make \$1.00 to \$1.70 per day, if they hustle and put in eleven hours work. As a result the men talk of dynamite bombs as a remedy. And then we Socialists are said to create class hatred! Hands directed by untrained minds will throw bombs. Give Socialism a chance and the silent army, millions strong, will march to victory in peace. What an opportunity these embittered lives furnish for our propaganda! But I must needs, on Friday, hurry away to Logansport, leaving all this to Section Muncie.

At Logansport we took the first step toward an organization. The members at-large and sympathizers met and elected a Secretary and a literary agent. Here also in an industrial town of 20,000 the S. L. P. has a clear field in which to work unhampered. A thriving Section should be a natural growth not later than next summer.

I wonder what Illinois looks like? Frank Bohn.

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Total ..... \$10.75

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## FOR BAZAAR AND FAIR.

The following additional presents have been received for the Bazaar and Fair held at Grand Central Palace on Thanksgiving Day for the benefit of the Daily People: 7th A. D., Brooklyn, 3 savings banks; B. Knutson, Jersey City, one book, fancy cushion, milk pitcher and dish; E. Gottlieb, city, centre piece; Section Indianapolis, Ind., solid brass plummet; Mrs. A. Gierginsky, Miss M. Gierginsky and Miss I. Lapp, Hartford, Conn., tidy and fine cushion; A. S. Dowler, Finlay, Texas, Mexican cut coin watch fob, elegant Mexican silk shawl, pair of Mexican moccasins; Jos. J. Loverde, Houston, Tex., oil painting of Karl Marx; F. Janke, Indianapolis, Ind., 50 scarf pins; M. Weinberger, city, match holder, book and small framed picture; Mrs. W. Clark, New Brighton, S. I., 3 fine china plates, small milk pitcher, 11 ornaments, 6 tumblers; Mrs. Hesselberg, city, 2 dozen shaving brushes; J. Clough, city, barrel of apples; H. Liroff, city, burnt wood pictures; H. Nauman, Brooklyn, N. Y., zither; Miss Marie Kuhn, Brooklyn, N. Y., artistic hand braided chenille ladies hat; Mrs. H. Kuhn, Brooklyn, N. Y., fancy match safes; Joseph H. Harkow, cloth bound book; P. Stammer, city, 4 cloth bound books, sweet grass waste basket; J. J. Murphy, city, cash donation of four dollars; M. Kowarsky, city, 12 pieces cologne and soap; Mrs. A. Moren, city, 4 pin cushions and opera glass bag; Mrs. F. Moren, Jersey City, babies crochet shoes; Miss F. Silzberg, city, opera glass bag; Mrs. Fischer, Brooklyn, N. Y., comb and brush bag; Mrs. Touroff, Brooklyn, N. Y., pin cushion; Mrs. Cohn, city, bottle of Italian wine and a pickle dishes; Section Gloversville, N. Y., 8 pair of gloves; Section Rockville, Conn., trousers pattern and box of 50 cigars; Mrs. E. Sherman, Rockville, Conn., 2 bread plates; Thomas Edgington, city, 4 fine large pictures; Socialist Labor Club of Brooklyn, 6 elegant upholstered foot stools; J. Van Veen, city, box of fine cigars; F. Fellerman, Hartford, Conn., comb and brush set; Mrs. C. Wolber, Bedford Park, N. Y., handsome pin cushion; Mrs. C. Vonderlieth, city, 6 fine cups and saucers, water decanter, glass dish, celery jar and glass sugar bowl; Mrs. J. E. Hoboken, N. J., silver candelabra and fixtures, ladies' belt and night dress bag; Mrs. Basse, Hoboken, N. J., pair of ladies' glove and ladies' tie; Mrs. F. Cordts, Hoboken, N. J., glass fruit dish; L. Oehlecker, Brooklyn, N. Y., cloth bound books; Fritz Werdenberg, city, knife and fork set; F. Brauckmann, Pleasantville, N. Y., fine stuns gas lamp with Welsbach burner and shade completed.

L. Abelson, Organizer.  
2-6 New Read street, New York.

## SECTION WORCESTER.

Section Worcester, Mass., meets at headquarters, 340 Main street, Room 25, the first Sunday of every month.



## WEEKLY PEOPLE

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copy of their articles, and not to expect  
them to be returned. Consequently, no  
stamps should be sent for return.

## SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES:

In 1888	2,068
In 1892	21,157
In 1896	36,564
In 1900	34,191
In 1904	53,793

The Roman slave was held by fetters;  
the wage laborer is bound to his owner  
by invisible threads. The appearance of  
independence is kept up by means of a  
constant change of employers, and by  
the "fictio juris" of a contract.—Karl  
Marx.

## INNOCENTS AT HOME.

The New York Child Labor Committee has applied to Gov.-elect Higgins for the removal of John McMackin, the Commissioner of Labor in this State. The ground that the Committee gives for McMackin's removal is that his "inefficiency is such as almost to render useless the present laws for the protection of working children." The Committee substantiated its charges with photographs of children five, six and seven years of age working in the factories of the State, and with further evidence of raids of other children under the legal age working in all portions of the State. The Committee also brought proof that in not less than 2,607 factories there were found children employed illegally, yet only five of these firms were prosecuted, and one of these escaped conviction. The Committee concluded that "despite the fact that we have the best law of any State in the Union, yet conditions here are little better than the conditions in the South, concerning which the country has been aroused."—All of which means that this certainly well-meaning Child Labor Committee consists of a lot of Innocents.

The plunder of adult Labor, which means the feeding on the marrow of men and women, by the Capitalist Class is the inevitable result of the capitalist system in its normal state; and he who says capitalism in its "normal state" also implies "frenzied capitalism"—unless he be an Innocent. Frenzied capitalism is the inevitable tail to the "normal capitalism" head of the comet. The atoms in the "frenzied capitalism" tail of the comet are drunkenness, prostitution, legalized Wall street gambling and unregulated gambling named "pool-rooms", torn homes, crimes of all descriptions, and, last, not least, child labor. The feature of the capitalist comet is that its head ever grows smaller, its frenzied tail ever more sweeping, more frenzied, more devastating. Among the correct points, that President Roosevelt unwittingly scored in his message to Congress against the social system that he upholds, is that the problem of child labor "is rendered excessively difficult" by the circumstance that, in States having the same industries, "the worst tends to drag down the better." The Child Labor Committee of this State proves the point when it declares that conditions here, where we have "the best law of any State", are little better than in the South, where the law is notoriously bad. The competitive struggle for existence sets the pace. The same scourge that in this State alone drives at least 2,607 firms to violate the law against child labor, and batten on infant flesh, drives, in turn, Labor Commissioners to violate the law against bribery, and batten on these cannibalistic firms. It is an endless chain. It starts in crime—the crime of capitalism, of the private ownership of the land on, and the tool with which to labor; it can not choose but evolve a widening coil of criminal links. It is an evil that can sooner be ended than mended. And ended it must be.

Man is not naturally a cannibal. When he turns into one he is driven by stress. The fiend is not imaginable who would love to live on the marrow of his fellow man, let alone of infants. What IS imaginable, what IS seen daily, is the spectacle of men who adjust their morality to conditions that their own uniformed or indolent minds conveniently present to them as natural and unavoidable. They are shipwrecked mariners turned cannibal, and who, holding such conditions to be stable, have accommodated themselves to them; have come to like them, and are even ready to fight for them and approve them with a text.

It is the duty of him whose knowledge is abreast of his moral instincts and aspirations, and whose virility is of a piece with both, to join the ranks

of the Socialist Labor Party, which, as the Republican Party of the days of Lincoln, marches to-day along the only route that leads to the uprooting of the great National Crime of our generation—Wage-Slavery.

Mark Twain has set the world roaring ever since he wrote his work "Innocents Abroad". The Innocents at Home of the New York Child Labor Committee, in their posture of seeking to hold back the runaway horse of capitalism by its tail, would add to the hilarity were the subject not so tragic.

## OUR ZEMSTVOS.

We in America have no Zemstvos! For the "Zemstvo" Russian conditions are requisite! It requires at one end of the social line an oppressed mass, timorously struggling for freedom, and the counterpart of that, at the other end, an arrogant knout-wielding Czar! We have none of that! Consequently, there is no "Zemstvo" in ours!

Well, there is. We have that identical oppressed mass, timorously struggling for freedom, and that identical arrogant, knout-wielding Czar at the other end.

Nonsense! Just read President Roosevelt's message—the passage on Capital and Labor. There will be found reproduced the picture cast upon the canvas by the recent mutual posture of Zemstvos and Czar—or as the things would be called here, Organized Labor and Capital.

In Russia, the Zemstvos represent the germs of political representative government. They are the forecasts and foreshadowings of free political institutions. Accordingly, the Zemstvos are an emanation of the breath of democratic aspirations. All that is in opposition to Czarism, which is a denial of democracy, an assertion of Autocracy. The principle, that, consciously or unconsciously, has given birth to the Zemstvos is a powerful principle, on whose brow shines the star of ultimate victory; for all that, what with their youngness, the pressure of the opposing and now dominant force of Autocracy, and unquestionably also the corrupting influence of this force upon themselves, the Russian Zemstvos are still weak upon their legs. Accordingly, the Zemstvo's posture is still timorous: it is contradictory; it stands for freedom, yet it bends, and bows, and scrapes before Autocracy, whom it pats on the back and with whom it seeks "conciliation", "harmony", "fraternal relations". Weakness on the part of the wronged ever engenders overbearingness on the part of the wrongdoer. Nevertheless, the attitude of the Czar before the rising Zemstvos is not an attitude of merely intensified overbearingness. The most autocratic wrongdoer is affected by the Spirit of the Age. The Moscowite Autocrat feels the subtle influence. His attitude is a compromise. One time he would have answered with wholesale imprisonment, punctuated with not a few sentences of death for the most pronounced representatives of the "spirit of riot against the institutions that have rendered Russia powerful, prosperous and happy". Not so now. He also indulges in some bows, stiff ones, but still bows. His words, accordingly, used towards the Zemstvos whom faint he would throttle, and whom he means to throttle, soon as he has a chance, are chosen in obedience to the exigency of the times. He does not rave; he does not pronounce the Zemstvos an impious attempt against the laws of God; no; what he says is in substance this:

"I favor the organization of the Zemstvos; my subjects have the right to organize themselves; such organizations are legitimate to secure the rights of the individual; all encouragement I can give them shall be given—so long as they are conducted with a due and decent regard for the rights of the Imperial Crown. But when any such organization seeks improper ends, or seeks to achieve proper ends by improper means, then all the officers of the Crown must oppose the wrongdoing resolutely."

What is meant by "a decent regard for the rights of the Imperial Crown" is obvious; obvious also is the meaning of the "improper ends" that must be "resolutely opposed". The "rights of the Imperial Crown" means Autocracy; the "improper ends" means the overthrow of Autocracy; the "resolute opposition" means the application of the mailed hand to all such revolutionary manifestation. Much can be learned by us in America from the present mutual posture between Russian Autocracy and Zemstvos. It illumines the tableau between Organized Capital and Organized Labor. It illumines the spiked-policelub President's message on Capital and Labor.

The Trades Union is a forecast and foreshadowing of the parliament of the Socialist Republic. As such, it is an emanation of the breath of economic freedom. All that is in opposition to Capitalism, which is a denial of human freedom, an assertion of Labor's enslavement. As with the Russian Zemstvo, the principle, that, consciously or unconsciously gives birth to the Trades Union,

is a principle on whose brow shines the star of ultimate triumph. As certain as the Czar's political Autocracy will go down before the spirit of political freedom represented by the Zemstvo, just so inevitable is the downfall of Capital's economic Autocracy, and, along with that, its political supremacy, before the spirit that gives birth to the Trades Union. The liberation of Labor is in the cards of the times. Nevertheless, and for all that, what with the present inexpertness of the Trades Union, what with the pressure of the opposing and now dominant force of Capitalist Autocracy, and unquestionably also what with the corrupting influence of this force upon Labor, the American Trades Union still stands upon vacillating legs. Hence it is still timorous: it is contradictory: it stands for freedom yet it bends, and bows, and cringes before the Capitalist, with whom it seeks "conciliation", "harmony", "fraternal relations"—at all points exactly as the Zemstvos towards their Czar.

Nor is the posture of the Capitalist Class of America different, at this pass and stage, from its Moscowite counterpart. Like the Moscowite Autocrat, the American Capitalist Class is sensitive to the subtle influence of the atmosphere of the Age. Fain would it also stamp out the "rising spirit of riot against the institutions that have made America powerful, prosperous and happy". But it can not; it dare not. It tried the game in distant Colorado, and felt compelled to draw in its horns and hide its cloven hoof. Its posture also is that of enforced compromise. One touch of Nature makes all Usurpers kin. In the approved style of his Moscowite ditto, the American Capitalist Class frames its words and posture to suit the times. How absolutely identical are its spirit and posture with those resorted to by the Russian Usurper may be gathered from the message of its chief representative, to Congress. The President says:

"There should be organization of labor in order better to secure the rights of the individual wage-workers. All encouragement should be given to any such organization, SO LONG AS IT IS CONDUCTED WITH A DUE AND DECENT REGARD FOR THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS." But when any labor union seeks IMPROPER ENDS, or seeks to achieve proper ends by IMPROPER MEANS,

then the wrongdoer must be OPPOSED RESOLUTELY. Who the "others" are, whose "rights" must receive "due and decent regard", need no explanation; nor is any explanation needed on what constitutes "improper ends" or "improper means", or yet "proper ends". The "rights" referred to are those of the Capitalist Class to plunder and slaughter the Working Class and keep it in subjection: those "rights" must receive "due and decent regard": "proper ends" are only those that will leave unscathed the autocratic power of Capitalism: "improper" is any end that would aim at the opposite: "improper" every means that would have practical results, and "proper" eminently "proper means" are only those of twaddle—spit-balls to fight the Usurper with: the more ineffective or spit-balls, all the more commendable and "proper" is the means, all "improper ends" or "improper means" against the rights of the Usurper will be "resolutely opposed"—Sherman Belled.

Have we no Zemstvos in America? And are we not witnessing here a scene that bears close parallel with that which is being enacted in Russia? Of course! Nor will the issue be different.

## ARE THEY DONKEYS, OR FELONS?

Mr. F. W. Haskell's article in the "Engineering Magazine" for this month on railway accidents has been called "a notable article." In order to appreciate the full extent of its "notability," Mr. Haskell's article should be read by the light of the appalling figures of railroad accidents during the last twelve months, and also by the light of the praises bestowed upon it by the capitalist press, which hails it "notable."

The figures in rough—and they certainly are below rather than above the mark—for the number of injured and slain is 150,000 in one year. Mr. Haskell's theory is that these injuries and deaths are mainly due to the negligence of the employees; according to the gentleman's theory, they are the ones to blame. Mr. Haskell is no autocratic reasoner. On that score credit is due him. He furnishes the facts from which he draws his conclusion—the conclusion that the fault lies with the employees. Here are two of his facts:

A locomotive engineer said to him: "Why, my dear sir, if we followed all the rules we would never get a train in."

A signaller, whom he questioned, answered: "We couldn't get the freight trains over the road if we kept them a block apart."

panies are set up only for the purpose of holding the companies free in cases of accidents? Who does not know that the employees are ordered to bring the trains in, and that, as the two witnesses quoted above testify, it is impossible to obey these orders and yet observe the rules? Who does not know that the employees are placed before the dilemma of either obeying the order to bring the trains in and keeping their jobs (if they survive), or violating the order by the observance of the rules, and then be discharged? Who does not know that the dividends of the roads depend upon the trains coming in? These are all matters of common knowledge, and many a time the knowledge has been tragically imparted to the public by a severely maimed locomotive engineer, upon whom the company sought to add the insult of blame to the injury caused by their own orders and unexecutable rules. Even the veriest innocent could detect from the testimony of the two witnesses, whom Mr. Haskell places upon the stand, the evidence of their helplessness—the impossibility of obeying both the order to "get the train in" and the rules for safety; even the least sophisticated can perceive that the paramount order is to "get the train in"; who but boobies are ignorant of the fact that the size of dividends and the magnitude of the gains of speculators depend upon "the train's getting in"?

It is no secret to the intelligent man that capitalist society runs and is run rough-shod over human life; nor is it a secret that the employee class is the first, the principal sufferer. The article written, in all sobriety, that places the blame upon the employee, and the praises of such an article—all the more when the conclusions arrived at by the article twist awry the very testimony upon which the conclusions are based—brand both author and his praise-singers as either egregious donkeys or double-dyed felons!

## WHAT THEY COME TO.

The only quarter from which the Socialist Labor Party is ever charged with "Union-smashing" is the quarter of the Gompers A. F. of L., a cardinal article in whose creed of "Unionism" is the propriety of State militiamen in the trade councils of his organization—a propriety that Mr. Gompers' associate on the Hanna National Civic Federation, Mr. Ralph M. Easley, loudly applauds as "so obvious that it ought not to be open for discussion at all." All the other cardinal principles of Mr. Gompers' organization, together with the minor tenets that flow therefrom, are of a piece with the one named. They all spring naturally enough from the body's fundamental principle—the Brotherhood of Capital and Labor. It is natural enough that people who hold such views should believe the S. L. P. is a "Union-smasher". And people who know better than to hold such views on the relations of Capital and Labor, and still train with those who do, are still more naturally the loudest echoers of the charge against the S. L. P. Non-Parisians and admirers of Parisian levity are proverbially more Parisian than the Parisians. The sorry figure often cut by the non-Parisians, who are more Parisian than the Parisians, is a not infrequent subject for French cartoonists. An American cartoonist could vie with his French colleagues if he were to take in well the figure cut by the Milwaukee "Social Democratic Herald" of last week.

The Editor of the "Social Democratic Herald" is back home fresh from his escapade as a delegate to the recent San Francisco convention of the A. F. of L. The gentleman is black and blue all over; court-plaster criss-crosses his ample proportions; and bandages innumerable hold his contusions in check. He is so disfigured that his own friends find it hard to recognize him. He bears all the marks of rough treatment. Indeed, he had a rough experience at the convention. He went thither as a Marxist, accordingly, as an adversary of the "Brotherhood-between-Capital-and-Labor" theory. What was more, he tried to express his views. He got no further than to try. The Gompersites threw him down. They trampled all over him; and when they got through, they walked over him some more. There was not a square inch of his anatomy that their heels and spiked soles did not cruelly lacerate. Not satisfied with that, they dropped salt and pepper into his wounds; in parliamentary language they called him a liar; in parliamentary language they called him an ass; and most fiendish of all, they called him point-blank a "Union-smasher"!

One should think that, after such treatment, the Editor of the "Social Democratic Herald" would fight shy of the term "Union-smasher"; one should expect that, after such experience, he would think twice before echoing against the Socialist Labor Party the "Union-smashing" charge that his militia-loving Gompers associates invented in order to create confusion and trouble the waters in which they are fishing. Not he! Why, if he did, if he ceased to out-do his militia-loving A. F. of L. associates in slandering and misrepresenting the S. L. P. Trades Union Attitude, if he did that, then they would not rest content with beating him, they would then bodily fire him out, as utterly useless

to them. Now, of all consummations, it seems, that would be the direst, that, in the opinion of the Editor of the "Social Democratic Herald" could happen to him. Sooner would he die than cease to be of them. So, therefore, he is willing to continue and does continue in his lowly mission of a beast of burden to the anti-S. L. P. slogans of the Gompers crew, towards whom his attitude is: "Beat me not, I beg you; but if you will, why, I am your ass!"

The formation of a stock raisers' combine, embracing the farms and ranches of the great central and western country, to fight the Meat Trust, is the latest manifestation of the economic fact that to-day protection and profit are only to be found in combination—and that combination forces combination. The step taken by the farmers and ranchers against the Meat Trust, requires combined instead of individual action. It does not contemplate the consolidation of individual properties. But that will come in time. The clear-headed among these farmers and ranchers will be forced by experience to carry the principle of combination to its logical conclusion. Thus, the present movement against the Meat Trust will eventually promote the spread of large farming and ranching. This will make easier the progress of Agriculture toward Socialism.

Congress has opened. The workmen who believe in "the power of organized labor to influence favorable legislation," will do well to note the action of the Congress on the bills in which "organized labor" is avowedly interested. With the lamp of experience to lighten up the future, it is safe to predict that when Congress has closed, the eight-hour and anti-injunction bills will be found to have been either defeated, amended to the detriment of "organized labor," or left in status quo. Government to-day is composed of committees of capitalists, who use the functions of state to protect and promote the interests of the capitalist class. Congress is made up of two of these committees. As a result, "Organized Labor" has no influence with Congress, except the influence which is helpful in advancing the measures advocated by the capitalist class.

The indications of a severe winter among the working class of the country continue to multiply. The local capitalist press announces that a "horde of unemployed seek city's charity," and proclaims that "the army of destitute idle is the largest on record." The presence of this "horde of unemployed" and "destitute idle," is attributed to the Subway, whose completion has thrown thousands of laborers out of work, and attracted thousands of others here in the hope of getting work in its operation. This latter fact is significant as it reflects a lack of employment in cities and towns outside of the great Metropolis, which drives multitudes hither.

The latest "Socialist" party weekly to appear is the Kansas City "Line-Up." It announces itself as "a class conscious Socialist paper," and "proves the announcement" by displaying, on its title page, the label of the Typographical Union, an organization whose national convention overwhelmingly voted down an anti-militia resolution, whose membership thereupon silently and meekly said "Amen" to the outrage, and which, in the language of "The American Labor Union Journal," committed itself "to the Krag-Jorgenson strike breaking program of capitalism."

The Standard Oil Company seems destined to become the syndicate of syndicates. Standard Oil people are said to have about \$20,000,000 invested in American Sugar Refining Company stocks. It is a significant fact that little is heard now of the beet sugar competition. In fact the beet sugar factories have been absorbed by the trust. Oxnard has been bought out and there is no demand for machinery for new beet plants.

The last issue of "The Miners' Magazine" is running over with articles on "Socialism" and "the Socialist vote." What little room is left is used up by articles and editorials rejoicing over election of the capitalist Adams. From all of which it is safe to conclude that "The Miners' Magazine" is determined to live up to its reputation of talking Socialism and voting capitalism.

Turkey is on the highroad to civilization. It has just suppressed the first strike in its history, declaring it a revolutionary movement. If Turkey keeps on at this pace, it will soon be abreast of Peabody.

Dun's index number of commodity prices shows an advance of 2½ per cent. in the last year and 1 per cent. in November. The gains were principally in articles of food and wear. The question of higher prices promises to be revived in all its pre-election phases.

If you receive a sample copy of this paper it is an invitation to subscribe.

## Flash-Lights of the Amsterdam Congress

[Rather than try to give a condensed report of the Amsterdam Congress and of what I saw of the European Movement in general, I shall present a series of articles under the above general head, subdivided under special heads. This flash-light method will be on the whole better. It will deal in detail with persons and things; and the flash-lights will, in the end, be seen to run into one another and portray the scene more effectively.—DANIEL DE LEON.]

## XII.

## THE SITUATION IN BELGIUM.

I spent,—"en route to the Amsterdam Congress", so to speak,—nine days in Belgium, from July 29 to August 8, when I arrived in Lille, upon the invitation of the Socialist Party of France, to attend its national convention, that took place in that city from the 8th of August to the 12th. In order to reach Lille, I had to cross Belgium from North to South, and back again to Amsterdam. During the nine days so spent I read all the Belgian Socialist papers that I could get, looked into the organization of the party, and conversed with all the members of the rank and file that I could reach. The result of my investigations along the above three lines of inquiry are these:

As to the Belgian Socialist press—with the possible exception of the Brussels "Le Peuple", and even there the exception must not be insisted upon too strongly—were it not because one is told so, they would not, of themselves, convey the information that they are Socialists. (The only information they convey is that they are Labor, but Labor only in the sense that A. F. of L. journals are Labor. They often reminded me of the one-time K. of L. journals. The workman in is evidence. But what with the clerical issue that these journals are wrapped up in, and what with the "Co-operatives" that absorb their attention and energies, Socialist education is absent. I saw hardly a line during those nine days that would help to steady the workingman in his understanding of his class interests—a term of frequent occurrence in the papers. Nothing to protect the worker against the chicanery of capitalist politics. Often did I put to myself the question: "These people's whole reliance is on their vote; even that is going down; what would become of it if, along with the American machinery that is being imported, the Belgian ruling class were to import some American capitalist devices to mislead the Labor vote?"

As to organization, the Belgian Socialist Movement is mainly organized into "Co-operatives"—stores and factories run upon the co-operative principle for the benefit of the stockholders. In these Socialist "Co-operatives", bourgeois and workmen; pro and anti-Socialists are found. They gather for the sake of cheapness of goods. No other bond unites them. These "Co-operatives" are a threat both to the party's integrity and to the party's enlightenment.

They are a threat to the party's integrity in that they foment the building of cliques for the jobs. Say that forty-five jobs are furnished by the running of a "Co-operative," then ninety men—the forty-five ins and the organized forty-five outs—will make it their business to uphold the institution by suppressing its defects and exaggerating its value. Often by worse means. The intrigues thus bred are numerous and constant.

The "Co-operatives" are a threat to the party's enlightenment in that they draw the Movement's mind from its real objective—"the producer's interests"—and keep it riveted on the bourgeois objective—"the consumer's interests". And the threat is all the more serious for reason of the immediate advantage that the "Co-operatives" offer. Few things are more dangerous to a Movement, revolutionary in its essence, than palliatives that are not incidental to the storm step, but that consume the marchers' thought, time, energy and aspirations. In this instance the palliative is all the more poisonous in that it directly plays into the hands of the capitalist's craving for lower wages. What has been experienced here in America in connection with proposed homes for working girls, is inevitably experienced elsewhere in connection with schemes to reduce the worker's living expenses. The girls' wages declined in even measure with the declined item for rent. So in Belgium wages are proverbially the lowest. The laborers of the "Co-operatives" at first incite the decline in wages, and then act as a salve to the wound. The original false step is thus transformed into a justification for its continuance. The Belgian "Co-operatives" may be called the Belgian version of American pure and simple unionism—eminently useful, if used as merely temporary makeshifts; eminently harmful in the end, if considered a finality, or even of sufficient importance to

deserve a preponderance of time and effort.

Finally, as to the rank and file. Under this head I may as well sum up the situation. The summary is best introduced by quoting two expressions I have heard used.

Belgium is highly musical; amateur musical bands abound, especially in the cities, and these are heard everywhere especially on Sundays—the people's day of rollicking enjoyment. The municipal governments encourage the people's love for music. The musical bands above a certain degree of proficiency are distributed by threes in the parks. There the sets of threes play successively on a certain number of Sundays, after which they draw lots for prizes ranging from 1,000 to 200 francs. It was so in Antwerp, where the three leading competitors played in the principal, the Rubens Park, on Sunday, July the 31st. One of the three bands was purely of musicians, another of bourgeois, the third was the Socialist band. Of all the three, the Socialist band was without a doubt the best. Relatively and absolutely it was magnificent. It formed just outside of the park, and marched in to the tune of the Marseillaise when its predecessor vacated the stand. The strain was in itself inspiring; it was rendered all the more inspiring by the dense mass, obviously workers, that filled the park and parted, amidst loud plaudits, to make way for the musicians; nor did the scene lose in impressiveness from the sight of the policemen in line, with hands raised to their caps in military salute of the Socialist band. What with all that, as an introduction, and the superb music that followed and continued for about an hour, I shall not soon forget that Sunday forenoon—nor the remark made to me at the close of the concert. Nicholas Van Kerkvorde, a former Socialist Labor Party member of Section Buffalo, and now a resident of Antwerp, had taken me to the park. At the close of the concert he introduced me to several of the people present. Still under the immediate influence of the grand sight I had seen and those grand strains that I had just heard, I remarked to one of them:

"Your Socialist band is superb!"

"If only our Socialism were as good!" was the rejoinder that followed as a flash, and that was emphasized by a look of anger.

The other remark made to me, not by one or by two people, was this: "Our present Movement is worthless. Our leaders are Utopians, if not bourgeois radicals. WHAT WE NEED IS A MAN OF KNOWLEDGE, CHARACTER AND A LITTLE FUNDS, JUST ENOUGH TO MAKE HIM INDEPENDENT, TO GIVE THE SIGNAL. WE THEN SHALL HAVE A MOVEMENT. NOT BEFORE." Right there in Antwerp, the Socialist daily, "De Werker", suspended, and was transferred to Ghent, for lack of readers, not withstanding it drew for seven years, a subdivision of 40,000 francs from the local "Co-operative," and notwithstanding the thousands of votes still polled in the city. Moreover, its former editor, now without a job, wormed himself into the good graces of the employers' class, and, while I was there, was being praised by these gentlemen in the public press for his "wisdom in establishing harmony between Capital and Labor". I was informed that he obtained some kind of secretaryship in the Employers' Association. That is the state that the Socialist press of Belgium, jointly with its "Co-operatives," has reduced the Movement to, or keeps it in.

What outlook does all this point to? I had more than once put the question to myself, and left it unanswered until a fact adduced by Nemes, a Bohemian delegate at Amsterdam, suggested the answer, at any rate, an answer. Nemes represented Bohemia on the Committee on International Political Attitude. His remarks before the Committee, alluded to by me in my preliminary report from Amsterdam, were to the effect that the radical bourgeois reputation which the Movement in Germany was obtaining had for its immediate effect to "encourage the Anarchists to re-assess themselves". In proof of this Nemes referred to a recent issue of the Berlin "Vorwaerts" in which it was reported that "1,500 Anarchists met in Berlin, denounced the German Social Democracy as a bourgeois affair, and not a word was raised in defence of the party." I had no opportunity to ascertain from Nemes the date of that "Vorwaerts", so as to verify and weigh the passage for myself. Taking the passage as given, methought the "Anarchy" of the said Berlin meeting might, perhaps, be understood by the terms of condemnation not uncommon in Belgium from Socialist quarters against the nerveless Movement in their own country. Might not the Berlin "Anarchists" of the passage be impatient Socialists, too impatient to realize that the German Social Democracy could not do otherwise than it does? In short, were

(Continued on page 6.)



## CORRESPONDENCE

[CORRESPONDENTS WHO PREFER TO APPEAR IN PRINT UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME WILL ATTACH SUCH NAME TO THEIR COMMUNICATIONS, BESIDE THEIR OWN SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS. NONE OTHER WILL BE RECOGNIZED.]

## LIGHT UPON INDIANA.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Comrade Frank A. Bohn has been here Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. He left us on Wednesday morning. About our meetings Comrade Bohn has, I suppose, sent a report but I desire to point out some interesting incidents.

At our Monday meeting appeared a "Socialist", at least he had been a candidate of the "Socialist" party—one of the best they have. Comrade Bohn at once turned the searchlight on him and to behold, Mr. Sutherland—for that was his name—unbosomed himself as follows:

"The campaign cost us in Evansville, \$500; in the State of Indiana, \$20,000. In the city of Evansville we expected from 3,000 to 5,000 votes and in the State 50,000. Everything worked well. But then came the 'Dead S. L. P.' and sent two speakers through the State and spoiled everything. In Evansville we polled 1,700 and in the State 12,000 votes. With the \$20,000 we spent we could have bought every one of them."

In answer to the question how the "Socialist" party managed to raise such sums he said that the members contributed from 5 to 20 dollars and even more than that, but that the candidates were the chief contributors. Shall we believe, is it believable that all the \$20,000 came from their own pockets? Asked about their meetings he gave us to understand that chairs and walking sticks are now often called into use to settle an argument bearing on their lack of the kind of success they had hoped for. Verily, a fine set!

We have 1,398 votes in the State; in 1900 we had 663; and are satisfied, very much satisfied, all the more when we consider the "going confession".

Jacob Fritz.  
Evansville, Ind., Dec. 1.

## BOHN IN INDIANAPOLIS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Comrade Frank Bohn has come and gone, but he has left a good impression behind him. Unfortunately, we only had him but one day instead of two, as he missed a train at Evansville. He felt as bad about it as we did and he is not to be blamed. The Evansville comrades put him on a street car for the depot in plenty of time, but instead of riding to the depot he had to get off about one-half a mile from the station and walk, one to the tracks being torn up. This caused him to miss his train by but a few minutes. It was unfortunate as we had our public meeting advertised for that night. I had received a telegram during the day and I spread the word as much as I could. We engaged the hall for the following night. Quite a number came the first night, and promised to come back the next night, but only about one-half did so. This half, however, was well repaid for their trouble. For I never heard a better or more forceful address than Comrade Bohn delivered last night. A dozen such men in the field constantly could work wonders. His visit will long be remembered, especially by the section members. He seems to have put more life into us and aroused us to our duties.

After the public had left Comrade Bohn gave a short talk to the members alone, on the subject of the Press Security League. A local Press Security League was at once organized and I was elected secretary-treasurer. Six members signed pledges but only three paid their first payment last night, balance will pay on next pay day.

Bohn left for Marion this morning, and I hope he will be successful there, and wherever he may go.

Frank Janke.  
Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 1.

## AS TO THE LABEL.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—It was with great pleasure that I read your answer in the Weekly People of November 26, to Comrade J. J. Tanner, of Kansas City, Mo., in regard to the label. I am a "union" garment worker and I know that the label of this organization is not only a delusion but also a means of humiliating and degrading the working class.

We are compelled to join the union when the capitalist manufacturer wants the label, we pay our hard earned money to "boom" some clothing magnate's trade, and most exasperating of all, we are forced to become strike breakers! Paradoxical? Yes, but true. For the garment workers here make clothing which is shipped to New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Rochester, to cities west and south, and when a strike breaks out in any of the above-named cities the garment workers of Cincinnati "get busy" and we hear of another strike lost. Thus the label be-

comes a weapon against the working class, instead of a protection.

The attitude of the S. T. and L. A. in regard to the label is the correct attitude, and if the conspicuously absent label provokes questions so much the better. We are always ready to explain the straightforward, influencing principles of the S. L. P. and S. T. & L. A. A Garment Worker.

Cincinnati, O., Dec. 1.

## SMALL, BUT DOING ITS SHARE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed find post office order for \$5.00, donated by Section Somerdale. The amount is small, but we have been out of work all summer.

Sunday, November 27, we re-organized as our members were all away last summer. We start up with two new members.

The following officers were elected: W. B. Cooper, organizer; John States, secretary-treasurer; John Misner, agent for German paper; Cooper, for the Weekly People.

Our town is small, about fifty families, so don't expect much from us in the way of subscribers. I sent eight sums in a few days ago and will do all I can for the press. Our vote went up to nineteen this time, a gain of nine over last year. That is good for so small a place. We will keep the class struggle alive in this place.

Yours fraternally,  
W. B. Cooper, Organizer.  
Somerdale, O., Nov. 29.

## THE "NOLI-ME-TANGERE-PARTY."

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Allow me to add a little suggestion to the bulk of columns of this issue, viz: that of a new name, adopted by the signed for the polynomial "Socialist" party.

It was before election. "Comrade" Brill, the son of a gentleman who owns only five groceries in this very Queen City, and who is a member of the alias party, spoke on the corner of Armory avenue (read Carey avenue), and Central avenue, under the auspices of that "Love and Charity Party" (to quote their general definition of Socialism). What did the speech of this Demosthenes of "Local" Cincinnati consist of? Why, here's an example: "Do you know where Roosevelt lives? In Oyster Bay. Do you know where Oyster Bay is at? Why, you don't know what an oyster is. You're a lot of lobstermen!" How does this jar you? How do you like this "descending to the Acheron love of the common people?" etc.

To make a long story short, the gentleman, after concluding his brilliant oration, proceeded, as is the custom of the Socialist (alias) party, with a call for questions. Meanwhile, he humiliated himself so far as to announce the "Socialist" (alias) party's literature. What was it? Of course, that sweet and delicious love letter "Merrie England."

I waited till some of their "ardent adherents" and ardent laborers, such as Ohrenstein (whose history of thought is as follows): First—Truthseeker; Second—Blue-Grass-Bladeite; Third—Would-be leader of the Ohio Liberal Society; Fourth—Staunch upholder of Bigelowism, alias middlebrowism; etc.; Fifth—Proudhonian Anarchist; Sixth—"Socialist" abroad; Seventh—"Socialist" party worker, speaker, etc. etc. and some others, to ask him some easy questions, whereupon I (just like a rough and uncouth S. L. P. man "without love and feelings"), asked the unmerciful question: "Since when is 'Merrie England' a Socialist book?"

Useless to say, this query did not taste well. Immediately, Korke (the gentleman who once told me that "it is only a question of time that Gompers will evolve into a class conscious, militant Socialist"), jumped up to me, telling me to "hush up," and the orator (God save the mark!), exclaimed: "Now, I know you; (in fact, neither did he see me, nor have I ever met the sublimen before). You came to disturb our meetings. You are an S. L. P. man."

And lo, and behold, what succeeded this glorious event! A stout preserver of capitalist law and order squeezed himself through the crowd, came right up to me and caught me very impolitely by the collar and quoth he: "Get the h— out of here!" And—gesagt, gethan! With one pull, he got me out of there!

But the S. L. P. is a thing the "Socialist" party cannot get rid of! One thrown out and rendered mute, up comes another, Comrade Silverstein, and begins to bother him, saying that my question was one deserving answer and urged the poor "bourgeois-Socialist" to furnish a reply. But the same fate that was mine was also his! The same capitalist pug-dog with a club in hand, did not respect any person and bade him also leave the place. Whereupon all the pious Kangs and Debelites lifted the sign of triumph, by laughing at our "defeat," by being chased out of the arena of fight, of course!

But are we done? No. The funniest of all funny things is yet to come. A man in the audience was so vehement to ask whether a social arrangement without money is a possibility. "Yes," quoth our orator, "there was an island

without money." "But where was that island and what is its name?" insists the by-stander. "I don't know. Officer, can't you keep order!" This was the final response to the mannerless interrogator. And the same fate that was ours was also his. He was pulled off by the same "cop" that performed the heroic feat upon us.

Now, whether "Comrade" Brill entered the class-struggle-hating-party for association or for advertisement of his father's several groceries with which he wants to compete with Kroger, who possesses only thirty-six groceries, I cannot tell, but one thing I CAN tell: the "comrade" is an unsurpassing speaker, including question-answer.

Here I sum up: The "Socialist" party's body is one full of abscesses and turgescences; the S. L. P. is so rough as to continually touch that soreful body and cause it unutterable pain.

The patient painfully exclaims: Noli me tangere! (Do not touch me!) Consequently, in order to do justice to this diseased body and call a spade a spade, let the comrades, the world over, baptize the "Socialist," etc. party, with the all-embracing name of "Noli-Me-Tangere-party."

With unaesthetic S. L. P. greetings,  
Henry Feuhrer.  
Cincinnati, O., Dec. 3.

## MORE DETERMINED THAN EVER.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Section Duluth has started a lecture course and expects good results. It will also put up a ticket for the coming election in February. Glad to report that comrades are more determined than ever.

Fraternally,  
E. J. Morin, Recording-Secretary.

## A SYMPATHIZER AND THE DAILY PEOPLE CHRISTMAS FUND.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The suggestion of Mr. Janke, of Indianapolis, that the People be remembered at Christmastide, is a good and timely suggestion, and I, a sympathizer of the Socialist Labor Party, would add my mite (25c.) to the fund; find it enclosed.

To those of us, who for one reason or another, cannot actively participate in the work of the S. L. P., the Christmas box offers an excellent opportunity to help to that extent anyway. I hope all of the friends of the S. L. P. who may be situated somewhat as myself, will see what they can do to show the high esteem in which its sympathizers hold the Party and the Party press. Don't put the matter off—DO IT NOW.

Sympathizer.  
Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 2.

## SHOULD LABOR BE GRATEFUL

To Capital for Giving the Latter an Opportunity to Fleeced It?  
(Holyoke Transcript, December 3.)

## HOW FAR SHOULD GRATITUDE GO?

Alderman Lambert from Ward 1, put in a little personal element in referring to the fact that the first job he ever had in this country John Stalker gave him, and he appreciated it so much that he was going to do all possible for Mr. Stalker's election.—Transcript.

Editor Transcript:—If there be any sense in Alderman Lambert's statement it would mean that a workman obtaining a job is the recipient of charity for which he is duty bound to be grateful.

Such a view is so glaringly untrue and silly that the maker of it should hide himself somewhere to study the A B C of political economy before making another public statement. For a pointer I will give Mr. Lambert the text from the Socialist kindergarten primer which reads: "Labor creates all wealth." Consequently it is not labor who should be grateful for the chance to produce wealth.

Mr. Stalker if he be an employer of labor is not entitled to thanks for giving jobs to workmen. After Alderman Lambert has mastered this first lesson, let him munch over this proposition: Socialists hold that under the capitalist system of production the employer of labor makes a profit upon the laborer's work, hence the employer is a parasite. If Alderman Lambert's mental capacity is equal to digest this crumb of political economy he will then readily understand the Socialist position in politics which demands the abolition of the capitalist labor fleeing system and the substitution therefore of the workers' co-operative commonwealth.

## SPECIAL FUND.

(As per Circular Letter Sept. 3, 1901.)  
Previously acknowledged ..... \$9,422.21  
P. Knege, Newark, N. J., (election bet) ..... 1.75  
W. Von Kerkvoorde, Durne, Belgium ..... 1.00  
Comrade Delmastro, New Haven, Conn. .... 1.50  
S. Winauer, City ..... 2.00  
C. O'Malley, Troy, N. Y. .... 2.00  
Section Somerdale, Ohio, per Scoops ..... 5.00  
P. Walsh, City ..... 1.00  
Section Richmond Borough, N. Y. (loan certificate) ..... 20.00  
Max Goltz, Winona, Minn (loan certificate) ..... 5.00  
Fred Brown, Cleveland, Ohio, (election wager) ..... 1.00  
Total ..... \$9,462.46

## Are We at Bulgaria or Italy?

I

Mrs. Olive M. Johnson, in a communication under date of November 28th, makes some observations and some striking statements which should arrest the attention of every S. L. P. man, as the hundreds of thousands of men, who at the last election voted for something that they believed to be Socialism, as Comrade De Leon justly remarks—and therefore are honest men—have placed the S. L. P. in an entirely different position from that occupied until now. And a different position entails different duties and different responsibilities. But of this, more later on.

There surely cannot be any doubt as to the correctness and justification of the attitude of the Socialist Labor Party until now, but when Mrs. Johnson states "that to the shrewd and clear-sighted politicians of the Hanna type, the S. L. P. stands for several cardinal and clearly understood truths," she makes a statement which is—to say the least—amenable to qualification. Politicians of the Hanna type, while "shrewd and clear-sighted," are still politicians only—not statesmen—and only concerned in the elections from year to year and the material advantages accruing to them by the same. A party which can neither elect nor influence an election, does not exist for them. Let us have no delusions on this point. Any one acquainted with the characteristics of these men hardly doubts that Mark Hanna, when he designated Socialism as the coming foe of the Republican party, had not the S. L. P. but the S. D. P. which did elect and did influence elections, in his mind.

One is very apt, by the constant application of mind to one and the same subject, to exaggerate its importance in relation to the whole, be this of the mental, moral or material order.

Of the "truths" one must accept, unless "we scorn to call him a Socialist, a comrade"—I really wonder from where Mrs. Johnson derives authority to thus categorically anathematize in behalf of the Party—the fourth as set down by Mrs. Johnson reads "that it (the S. L. P.) cares not for a single vote behind which there stands not a clear-sighted, intelligent and class conscious proletarian." And the platform of the S. L. P. as adopted at the Eleventh National convention, in part, says as follows:

"And we also call upon all other intelligent citizens to place themselves squarely upon the ground of working class interests and join us," etc.—and "when other intelligent citizens"—and there are quite a few middle class men within our ranks—have done so and certified to their intelligence, their honesty of mind, their recognition of the absolute unfitness of the capitalist system, by voting for our ticket—and today, the vote is the only proof of an honest citizen's political and social convictions—are we to tell them that the S. L. P. "cares not for a single vote behind which there stands not a clear-sighted, intelligent and class conscious proletarian?" Is this not rather a stupefying position to assume?

Mrs. Johnson rightly observes that the S. L. P. is now entering a new phase of development, requiring not alone steadfastness, but also carefully considered tactics. As far as the danger threatening of persons becoming extreme, one-sided and even petrified in their views though is concerned, it does not seem to me to be more in evidence at present than before. The fact is, radical movements, which attract men of pronounced characteristics have a tendency in this direction in all phases of development.

But the question is, what should we do now? or rather what must we do now? Here are hundreds of thousands of men who voted for something they believed to be Socialism, that have been attracted by the tactics of a so-called Socialist party and not by ours. The tactics advocated by Mrs. Johnson, excellent in themselves, have been those of the party for quite some time, but the experience of the last election proves them to be inadequate and "I have only one lamp to guide my feet by, the light of experience," said Patrick Henry. I surely do not want to pat myself on the back and say: "Oh, what a good boy am I!" but there surely does not exist a body of men and women, banded together for a single purpose, which could have employed more energetically the very means of agitation set forth by Mrs. Johnson. And when one considers that these men and women are millers and toilers for the sole benefit of an oppressing class, that agitation means self-deprivations, a little poorer home, a little poorer meal, shabbier clothes, this devotion to principles becomes sublime. But it is not optional with us to change our tactics, it is imperative. If we are not organized for theoretical purposes, if we are not like the numismatic society or similar associations a body of faddists, if we are organized for the purpose of breaking the chains of the white slave, of trampling down

this monstrous capitalist system of erecting the Socialist Republic—then we must heed the cry of these masses groping in the dark: "Give us light!"

I am absolutely opposed to any attitude, not in strict conformance with our principles as laid down in the platform, I fully recognize the dangers besetting us, entering the camp of the enemy, the bogus party, to drag forth our own, but I cannot see another way. I am not in favor of flirting association or compromise with the Social Democratic party as IT IS TO-DAY, but I am in favor of the appointment of a committee in accordance with the advice of the International convention, for the purpose of exchanging views with a similar committee of the S. D. P. And I do not doubt but that our delegates, no matter who they be, will emerge from these meetings unscathed and that their words at these meetings, if arrangements for a wide and proper publication can be made, will go far, very far, towards opening the eyes of the deluded followers of the backboneless, before-the-fakirs-criing leaders of the S. D. P.

The expression "De Leonism" coined by our enemies for the purpose of arousing prejudice within our ranks, to designate a malicious falsehood of their own invention, must raise the ire of any true man, be he friend or foe, who is acquainted with De Leon, the man, the Socialist, the writer. There surely has been made a good deal of abusive speaking-making during the last few campaigns, some of the senseless scolding also has found its way into the correspondence column of the Daily People—probably through a top nice conception of his duties on the side of the editor—but why in the world we should designate these erroneous proceedings by this expression which must be distasteful to the man most concerned, is a puzzle to me.

Let our men and women speak Socialism, and Socialism only, applying its lessons to the events of the day and very soon the scales will fall from in front of the workers' eyes and they, themselves, will relegate to the background their present economic and political misdeeds.

G. Ollendorff.  
New York, December 4.

II

Ever since the last International Congress, some members of the Socialist Labor Party seem to be influenced by the "unity" cry of the enemy, who are encouraged by the Editor of The People, whose late editorials smack of unity.

Comrade De Leon says: "The people who voted for Debs, voted for something they thought to be Socialism." This statement, when analyzed, will be found lacking a foundation. Since 1896, when Bryan was placed at the helm of the Democratic party, he has succeeded in gathering around that party what is called "a radical element." When, at the St. Louis Democratic convention, that same "radical element" was beaten horse, foot and dragon, it was left without a party or a presidential candidate, and forced to do the next best thing, which was found in voting for Watson and Debs. When the Democratic party puts up a "radical" candidate that same element will flock back to the old roost.

As a result of Comrade De Leon's reasoning we now have Comrade Ollendorff, who carries it to its logical conclusions. He says: "Those 600,000 Socialist votes cast for Debs were attracted to Socialism by the tactics of the 'Socialist' party, and not by ours." Well, they might have been attracted by their tactics, but not by their Socialism. They attracted a Bryanistic vote, which vote Bryan will get back when he regains the upper hand in the Democratic party.

Comrade Ollendorff further says: "I don't believe in flirting with the S. D. P.," which he endeavors to impress on our minds. Then he proposes that the whole party shall flirt with them, when he advises us to "elect a committee to exchange views with a similar committee TO BE elected by the S. D. P." Well! If this is not flirting, what in the name of common sense do you call it?

Beware! once you flirt: you might be tempted, and who knows how far you might go in your eager desire to taste the forbidden fruit!

Those hints on unity, that lately find space in the columns of The People, only lead to confusion. For instance: the S. D. P.'s Texas State platform, which was commented on by Comrade De Leon, placed the Texas comrades in a position—when that editorial was held under their nose—where they couldn't defend their position. Since both parties in Texas hold the same position, there is nothing left but to unite.

I think Comrade De Leon treads on dangerous ground, and he can't retract his steps any too soon. The hour for such language has not come yet—it is first to come.

Louis M. Wieder.  
New York, Dec. 6.

## SECTION ERIE COUNTY.

Regular meeting of Section Erie County (Buffalo), Socialist Labor Party will take place on Saturday, December 17, 8 p. m. at 527 Main street, to elect officers, and committees. All members are requested to attend, as other important matters will also come before the meeting.

## LETTER-BOX OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

[NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.]

W. McA., SYRACUSE, N. Y.—First—The value of a commodity is not determined by its cost. The value of a commodity is determined by the amount of socially requisite labor crystallized in it. The cost of a commodity is only a fraction of its value. The other fraction is made up of the unpaid value imparted to it by the last labor that worked over it.

Second—Labor's power to create greater wealth than its own commodity value (price under normal conditions) is its peculiar use value.

Third—Economic, the same as all other laws, are regulated by the rule, not the accident. The exceptional "value" of an article to a man under exceptional conditions is no standard to establish the law of values by. Richard III. on Bosworth field was willing to pay with his kingdom for a horse. No one yet suggested to take that instance as an element in the transactions of the "horse market."

T. W. PUEBLO, COLO., and TO WHOM ELSE IT MAY CONCERN.—By actual count there are now in this office fifty-three clippings and tracts of clerical assaults on Socialism. We couldn't if we would, we wouldn't if we could "roast" them all, as requested. For one thing most of them are too trivial for notice; for another thing The People has other fish always ready for its frying-pan: to give undue attention to one set, might be resented as partiality by the other set of capitalists; and finally, these clerical outbursts should rather be encouraged. These gentlemen are giving Socialism an immense amount of free advertising. The frying of one of them, once in a while, particularly when they are particularly juicy, is all that's wanted.

F. F. YONKERS, N. Y.—No one can accomplish the feat of being a fakir first, and a Socialist afterwards. He will be a fakir all the time.

E. M. T., BOSTON, MASS.—The Rev. E. M. Van Aken, the hero in the article "Tolderoll Father Aken", is located somewhere in Montana.

G. W. W., ST. LOUIS, MO.—Guard against being deceived by appearances. However glittering the raiment of Capitalism may be, yet, if you look below, you will find the thing sadly down at the heel.

H. J. B., FLORENCE, COLO.—The first suggestion has been acted on; the second will be.

D. G. S., NEW BRIGHTON, N. Y.—The single tax is an ideal system of taxation. But it is impotent to bring about economic freedom. Natural opportunities remain inaccessible to the toolless man. Only the tool-owning man can avail himself of them. The law of exchange values demonstrates the fact.

T. B., NEW YORK.—Get you a copy of the National Civic Federation. The last, the November, issue is full of tid-bits. It booms Gompers' A. F. of L. as if the paper were run by a board of walking delegates, instead of being run by such Trust magnates as Belmont, Vreeland, Cornelius B. Bliss, etc. Of course it denounces the Socialist Labor Party as a "Union wrecker."

H. W., CHICAGO, ILL.—The theory that a member of a pure and simple Union is bound to submit to the impositions of the officers, and that that is a justification for a Socialist member to lie low, is an artifice that has been worn thin by too much use. Moreover, the cases of Corregan, Berry and others show what a man can do.

A. N. McD., EUREKA, Cal.—You deserve to be congratulated. You are a worthy exception to a pretty bad rule. As a rule, critics of The People say IT "slings mud." You at least admit that both sides do. As a fair man you can be talked to, and we may learn from you. Won't you give us an illustration of our mud-slinging?

L. R., NEW YORK.—In the State of Massachusetts, in order to be recognized officially a political party must either have polled 3 per cent. of the total poll for Governor at the previous election, or it must have polled at least 1,000 votes for the previous 5 consecutive years.

Y. S. R. NEW HAVEN, CT.—First—Whatever wounds the S. L. P. has received have been inflicted by Debs. The Volkszeitung Corporation was thrashed at every point by the S. L. P. But the party's mail is too strong for its vitals ever to be reached.

Second—Order Bebel's Woman from the Labor News, 2-6 New Reade street, this city.

F. R., SAN ANTONIA, TEX.—Now to your third question. A man out of work, ragged, homeless, looking for

work is decidedly worse off than he would be if employed with food, clothing and shelter, be it ever so humble.

L. L., PITTSBURG, KANS.—Of what Section does Mr. B. F. Wilson claim to have been a member?

C. C., BOSTON, MASS.—The matter is partly and substantially answered above under "F. F. Yonkers, N. Y." and "H. W., Chicago." This may be added. The S. P. man, who claims that his first allegiance is to the A. F. of L., and his second to his party, proves our contention is right—either the economic movement will dominate the political, or the political must dominate the economic. The man deserves credit for not mincing matters. Whoever is frank is bound to contribute evidence to the S. L. P. arguments.

D. A. F., NEW YORK.—Can we keep the letter? It is worth printing as illustrative of the principle: Whose aims are small, his means are petty, and both bespeak the small man.

H. S. S., CHICAGO, ILL.—By "other intelligent citizens," appealed to in the S. L. P. platform, those citizens are meant who are not of the working class, but whose intelligence enables them to see the approaching downfall of capitalism, and whose character is strong enough to break with their class interests.

Next question next week.

A. S., NEW YORK.—The answer was perfectly correct. A Saturday full holiday would be only a palliative. Palliatives are not necessarily good. They may be good and they may be bad. They are good if they are known to be palliatives, so that one moves on to the cure itself. They are bad if they are not realized to be palliatives and that, as such, they are bound to be lost, if one does not move on to the cure itself. In this sense the palliative of Saturday full holiday would work harm, because the capitalist will and must seek to recoup himself. The introduction of improved machinery, employing fewer men, is one, and one that capitalists have resorted to. It certainly does not follow that the only time capitalists introduce improved machinery is in such instances. Capitalist competition is at the bottom of the introduction of improved machinery.

"READER," SCHENECTADY, N. Y.—Just so. The figures for this city show that the Volkszeitung Corporation was a drag upon the Debs vote.

R. H., NEW YORK.—The proceeding is wholesome. An organization, as that brewers' union, that allows itself to be so despoized by its officers that a member can be "tried" without notification, fined and thrown out of work has nobody but itself to blame if it has to pay the costs of a lawsuit instituted and won by the victimized member. That may be a wholesome lesson for the members to shake off their subservency to their fakir rulers. It is one of the best ways of "boring from within."

A. T., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—If, in whatever of several ways, a man earns more than another, or saves up in the "Socialist Republic," it would be simply impossible for "such a state of affairs to bring about our present system." The notion that it would proceeds from a radical misconception of what capitalism is. The power of the capitalist to plunder the workingman does not proceed from the capitalist's wealth. It proceeds from the absence of the collective ownership of the things a man needs to work with. Socialist guarantees to every man access to these necessities of wealth production. None would, accordingly, sell himself into wage slavery.

"Communism," i. e., the rule of equality of consumable wealth, is a mere phrase. It is a phrase because it is an aspiration that does not take into consideration the material facts, and, therefore, the material possibilities. Where material possibilities are what they are to-day, to wit, an abundance to the worker with few hours work and barely 20 work days, and that only during his robust age—under such conditions, the communistic idea is more than a phrase, it is supererogatory.

D. A., NEW YORK.—In the first place, "The Worker," article against the "Appeal to Reason" get-rich-quick advertisement was preceded by several days by The People's shot. In the second place "The Worker" even cribes some of the terms used in The People's article. In the third place The Worker's article is apologetic.

E. G., PATERSON, N. J.—Sunday, Feb. 5. "Are we at Bulgaria or Italy?"

J. H., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—The plaintiff against the Brewer officers, in the case decided by Judge Scott was A.

(Continued on page 6.)



## OFFICIAL

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
Henry Kuhn, Secretary, 2-6 New Reade street, New York.

**SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA**  
National Secretary, P. O. Box 389, London, Ont.

**NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY**  
2-6 New Reade street, New York City (The Party's literary agency.)

Notice—For technical reasons no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

## THE TOUR OF COMRADE FRANK A. BOHN.

On November 20 began the transcontinental tour of Comrade Frank A. Bohn. The comrade has put in one week's work in Kentucky, after which he will proceed to Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington, and then return East. When first conceived, the tour was undertaken largely as a means to get Comrade Bohn to California, the S. L. P. State Executive Committee of that State having engaged the comrade for a three months' agitation and organization tour there. But that aspect of the matter vanished completely when the result of the late election became known. A situation utterly different from what we have had before, confronts us today. The "safe and sane" Democracy has been smashed at the polls. No plus ultra capitalism has been placed in the saddle in a manner that must cause secret fear in the hearts of its more far-seeing representatives, it being more than they probably bargained for. As a result, the lines of the class struggle will soon become more plainly visible in our political life than ever before. During such times men will learn more in a month than they would otherwise learn in a year. Their minds will be open. Therefore, now is the time for the Socialist Labor Party to do its utmost to agitate, educate and organize. The tour of Comrade Bohn appeared desirable when first mentioned. Looked at in the light of the present situation, it has become imperative.

To make possible the uninterrupted success of this tour, the National Executive Committee, who have assumed full responsibility for the work, financially and otherwise, must be supported. We therefore call upon all members and friends of the Socialist Labor Party to contribute to a fund to sustain the tour undertaken, said fund to be known as the "General Agitation Fund" which head all contributions will be publicly acknowledged. Let those who can give send their contribution, but wherever possible instead of making one contribution and then be done with, let those who ardently desire to further this work pledge a small weekly contribution in an amount in keeping with their means and thus insure a steady income. Should the response to this call warrant it, other organizers will be put on the road as fast as means permit.

Public acknowledgements of the amounts received will be made once a week in the Sunday People and will then appear in the subsequent issue of the Weekly People.

Trusting that this will meet with the response the situation demands, we are,

Fraternalists yours,  
The National Executive Committee, Socialist Labor Party, Henry Kuhn, Secretary.

## GENERAL AGITATION FUND.

This fund, which has been started to sustain the work of Comrade Frank A. Bohn in his transcontinental tour, had receipts during the week ending with December 10 as follows:

Chas. C. Hall, Roseburg, Oregon \$ 2.00  
"Discipline," Newark, N. J. .... 1.00  
Section Cincinnati, Ohio .... 1.00  
Max Eisenberg, Cincinnati, Ohio 1.00  
J. C. Anderson, Tacoma, Wash. .... 5.00  
R. McDonald, Tacoma, Wash. .... 1.00  
Thos. Wielding, Butler, Pa. .... 1.00  
A. Touré, Brooklyn, N. Y. (pledge 25 cents per week) .... 1.00  
M. Weinberger, New York City, (pledge 15 cents per week) .... .15  
Miss C. Weinberger, New York City (pledge 15 cents per week) .... .15

Total ..... \$13.30  
Previously acknowledged ..... 42.00  
Grand total ..... \$55.30  
Henry Kuhn, National Secretary.

## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

An adjourned meeting of the N. E. C. was held on Monday, December 12, at 2-6 New Reade street. John J. Kinneally in the chair. Absent, J. Hammer and J. J. Donohue. The financial report showed receipts in the amount of \$95.22; expenditures, \$145.18.

Communications: Several letters were received from Organizer Bohn reporting the work done on his tour. Also on the same subject letters from the Illinois S. E. C. to the effect that they would have Bohn for the full three weeks allotted to the State, which, since he wound up in Indiana on December 10th, will keep him from that State until December 31st. From Missouri S. E. C., stating that they, too, will take three weeks, closing on January 21st. From Section Pittsburg, Kansas, that they will take

two weeks for Crawford county, where meetings will be arranged in a number of mining camps; also that they will at once start in to raise funds. From Denver, Colo., upon the matter of Bohn's tour and information about the last days of the late Dr. Alek. Also that nominations for member of the N. E. C. for Colorado have been sent out. From Pennsylvania's S. E. C. report to the same effect and stating that their delegate will be in attendance on January 1st. From California S. E. C. reporting that nominations for member of N. E. C. have been sent out. It may here be noted that all organized States, whether they are able to send their representatives to the next meeting or not, must elect one of their members on the new N. E. C. It is desirable that as many as possible attend. From Hennepin, Minn., a letter asking whether make-up of the Weekly People could not be changed by taking some of the lighter matter in the Sunday People over into the Weekly, enlarging the latter to the size of the Sunday issue. The plan was not considered feasible. From Evansville, Ind., reporting the work of Organizer Bohn. From Iver Larson, Lisbon, N. Dak., making application for membership at large which was granted and card ordered issued.

Section San Francisco, Cal., sent an appeal from a decision of the California S. E. C. refusing approval of an amendment to their by-laws. The N. E. C. held that, under Article XI, Section 11, of the Constitution a State Executive Committee is the only body that has jurisdiction so far as the approval or disapproval of local by-laws is concerned. From Section Cincinnati, Ohio, requesting duplicate charter which was granted. From Washington S. E. C., inquiring about Bohn tour. From Section Cleveland, Ohio, reporting the expulsion of Andrew Messner for conduct unbecoming a member of the S. L. P., he having been found guilty of serving a capitalist corporation in procuring workmen to take the places of strikers. From Los Angeles, Cal., reporting partial returns of S. L. P. vote in recent municipal election.

The N. A. F. committee reported that matter has been shipped to all State committees for distribution among their respective sections.

Edward C. Schmidt,  
Recording Secretary.

GENERAL ORGANIZER'S FUND.  
HEADQUARTERS OF SOCIALIST TRADE AND LABOR ALLIANCE OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA, 2-4-6 NEW READE STREET, NEW YORK, JANUARY 2, 1934.

To All District and Local Alliances, Members at Large and Sympathizers, Greeting:

Now that the necessity for pushing the work of building up the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance is more than ever apparent and the opportunities greater, the General Executive Board would again urge upon our comrades and friends to contribute as much as possible toward the General Organizer's Fund, established for the purpose of putting in the industrial field a General Organizer who shall agitate, organize and help in promoting the work of the Alliance throughout the country.

Act quickly. Work must now be pushed and results accomplished. Address all contributions to John J. Kinneally, General Secretary, 2-4-6 New Reade street, New York.

Previously acknowledged ..... \$183.35  
L. A. 252, Brooklyn, N. Y. .... 2.10  
L. A. 42, Yonkers, N. Y. .... 1.00  
L. A. 140, N. Y. .... 2.90  
John Leahy, N. Y. .... .40  
John J. Kinneally, N. Y. .... .25  
J. Romary, Paterson, N. J. .... 1.00  
L. A. 325, Los Angeles, Cal. .... 3.00  
P. C. Kalamazoo, Mich. .... .25  
L. A. 182, New Bedford, Mass. .... .625  
L. A. 140, N. Y. .... .50  
F. K. Furlong, Boston, Mass. .... 2.00  
L. A. 342, Cleveland, Ohio .... 5.00  
M. Lechner, N. Y. .... 1.00  
L. A. 42, Yonkers, N. Y. .... .30  
C. J. Wolf, Jersey City, N. J. .... .25  
L. A. 325, Los Angeles, Cal. .... 3.50  
L. A. 42, Yonkers, N. Y. .... 2.00  
L. A. 140, N. Y. .... .80  
E. Fisher, N. Y. .... .50  
L. A. 140, N. Y. .... .45

Total up-to-date ..... \$217.00

G. E. B., S. T. & L. A.

Regular meeting of the G. E. B. was held at headquarters, 2-6 New Reade street, Thursday evening, December 8th. A. Alazone, elected chairman. Comrade Barthel absent without excuse.

Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.

Financial report read, received and filed.

General Secretary reported on mass meeting held in New York City on December 2nd, which was a success and recommended that another be held in Brooklyn, and one in Jersey City. Report concurred in.

Correspondence: From L. A. 400, San Francisco, Cal., with proposition on organizing. From L. A. 106, Louisville, Ky., with order for stamps. From L. A.

## GENERAL VOTE

Tabulation, by Sections, of the General Vote on the six questions mentioned below.

Questions:  
1.—Shall the Platform adopted by the National Convention of 1904 be approved?  
2.—Shall the Trades Union resolution adopted by the National Convention of 1904 be approved?

Sections	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
F. A.	F. A.	F. A.	F. A.	F. A.	F. A.	F. A.
California—						
Los Angeles .....	22	—	22	—	22	—
San Francisco .....	15	—	15	—	15	—
Membr's-at-large .....	12	—	12	—	12	—
Connecticut—						
Bridgeport .....	17	—	17	—	17	—
Hartford .....	11	—	10	—	11	—
Membr's-at-large .....	5	—	5	—	5	—
Colorado—						
Denver .....	7	—	5	—	6	—
Pueblo .....	10	—	10	—	10	—
Illinois—						
Belleville .....	7	—	7	—	7	—
Chicago .....	11	—	12	—	12	—
Duquoin .....	4	—	4	—	4	—
East St. Louis .....	6	—	6	—	6	—
Madison County .....	10	—	10	—	10	—
Peoria .....	8	—	6	—	8	—
Indiana—						
Indianapolis .....	12	—	12	—	12	—
Marion .....	6	—	6	—	6	—
Membr's-at-large .....	6	—	6	—	6	—
Kentucky—						
Louisville .....	10	—	13	—	10	—
Massachusetts—						
Boston .....	13	—	14	—	14	—
Cambridge .....	3	—	3	—	3	—
Everett .....	4	—	4	—	4	—
Fall River .....	5	—	2	—	5	—
Lawrence .....	6	—	6	—	6	—
Lowell .....	4	—	2	—	4	—
Lynn .....	6	—	6	—	6	—
New Bedford .....	5	—	5	—	5	—
Salem .....	5	—	5	—	5	—
Somerville .....	5	—	5	—	5	—
Worcester .....	5	—	5	—	5	—
Michigan—						
Detroit .....	18	—	17	—	18	—
Minnesota—						
Duluth .....	6	—	6	—	6	—
Hennepin .....	7	—	7	—	7	—
Minneapolis .....	15	—	15	—	14	—
Red Wing .....	3	—	3	—	3	—
St. Paul .....	10	—	9	—	10	—
Membr's-at-large .....	1	—	6	—	5	—
Nebraska—						
Lincoln .....	5	—	1	—	5	—
New Jersey—						
Essex County .....	18	—	18	—	18	—
North Hudson .....	5	—	5	—	5	—
Passaic County .....	14	—	14	—	14	—
South Hudson .....	7	—	7	—	7	—
New York—						
Albany .....	6	—	6	—	6	—
Buffalo .....	15	—	16	—	16	—
Monroe County .....	13	—	13	—	13	—
New York, Seat. ....	10	—	10	—	10	—
New York .....	108	—	147	—	165	—
Ontario County .....	9	—	9	—	9	—
Rensselaer County .....	9	—	7	—	9	—
Richmond County .....	6	—	6	—	6	—
Schenectady .....	8	—	8	—	8	—
Westchester .....	10	—	18	—	19	—
Membr's-at-large .....	1	—	1	—	1	—
Ohio—						
Cincinnati .....	13	—	7	—	13	—
Cleveland .....	32	—	32	—	32	—
Columbus .....	8	—	1	—	8	—
Hamilton .....	10	—	10	—	9	—
Membr's-at-large .....	2	—	2	—	3	—
Pennsylvania—						
Braddock .....	5	—	5	—	5	—
Erie .....	6	—	6	—	4	—
Lackawanna Co. ....	10	—	10	—	10	—
Wilkesburg .....	7	—	7	—	7	—
Rhode Island—						
Providence .....	8	—	8	—	8	—
Texas—						
San Antonio .....	12	—	12	—	12	—
Membr's-at-large .....	2	—	2	—	2	—
Utah—						
Salt Lake City .....	6	—	5	—	6	—
Virginia—						
Newport News .....	12	—	12	—	12	—
Richmond .....	11	—	11	—	11	—
Roanoke .....	5	—	5	—	5	—
Washington—						
Seattle .....	10	—	10	—	10	—
Tacoma .....	11	—	11	—	11	—
Membr's-at-large .....	4	—	4	—	4	—
Totals .....	800	5	745	43	785	12

A majority of the votes having been cast in favor of each of the six questions submitted, the same are herewith declared carried.

77, Boston, for supplies. From L. A. 140, New York, with donations to Organizers Fund. From Hartford, Conn., on state of organization, making a request; request granted and secretary directed to answer. From Section St. Louis, S. L. P., and Comrade W. W. Cox, on organization in St. Louis, prospects of a strong alliance movement in the near future. From D. A. 17, Rhode Island, on state of organization and making certain recommendations; received and recommendations concurred in.

Members-at-large accepted: E. H. Williams, printer, Basin, Mont., Charles A. V. Kemp, carpenter, Bracondale, Ont., Canada.

Amendments passed on by the last Na-

3.—Shall New York be the seat of the National Executive Committee?  
4.—Shall Section New York audit the books of the Party?  
5.—Shall Daniel De Leon be the Editor of the People?  
6.—Shall Henry Kuhn be the National Secretary of the Party?

The tabulation shows these questions in the rotation here given, numbered from one to six.

For the National Executive Committee, S. L. P.  
Henry Kuhn, National Secretary.

tional Convention and sent to a referendum vote were then taken up, and the vote compiled. It was found that the eleven amendments had been adopted by a referendum vote. It having been decided that the National Convention be held in the first week of June, secretary was directed to make arrangements accordingly, and notify all district and local alliances.

The plan of the Massachusetts S. E. C., Socialist Labor Party, for joint agitation, was then taken up and discussed.

Secretary was directed to issue an urgent appeal for funds to carry out the project. After other routine work meeting adjourned.

John J. Kinneally, General Secretary.

## FLASH-LIGHTS OF THE AMSTERDAM CONGRESS

(Continued from page 4.)

they really Anarchists! In Belgium a steady sediment of Socialist dissatisfaction is gathering against the present administration of the Movement. There, the dissatisfaction is justified. May we not any one of these days read in some Belgian Socialist paper denunciations of these dissatisfied elements as "Anarchists"? The train of thought, set in motion by Neme's passage from the "Vorwärts", connected with what I had seen of the Movement in France. A new vista, at least a possibility, that I had never before considered, unrolled before my eyes. Recent events in Russia have raised the barometer of the possibility.

To borrow an illustration from Marx, rather than for the sake of originality, quoting another of the several that may be cited, butyric acid is a substance different from propyl formate. And yet both consist of the identical elements—carbon (C), hydrogen (H), and oxygen (O); and what is more to the point, both consist of exactly the same proportions of the three elements—4 atoms of C, 8 of H, and 2 of O. While Marx adduces the illustration in connection with another subject than the present, it illustrates the one in hand as well; and well it is for those Marxists, who are inclined to be dogmatic, to ponder over the biology law that the illustration reveals. Biology teaches that different substances need not necessarily consist of different elements; identical elements, in identical proportions, may crystallize into different substances. The determining factor in such cases is the temperature and atmospheric pressure. In other words, the illustration reveals that different results are not predicated solely upon the difference in the composing elements. Other factors have, to a certain extent, a final word to say. Transferred to the domain of sociology the identical conclusion must be admitted.

Taking into consideration only certain cardinal principles, the conclusion can not be escaped that America is the theatre where the crest of Capitalism would first be shorn by the falchion of Socialism. In all these cardinal principles Europe, on the whole, is decidedly behind. While, so far, as decidedly in advance of America in the tangible and visible part of the Socialist Movement, the facilities, capabilities, and ripeness of continental Europe for ringing the tocsin of the Social Revolution and successfully carrying out the Revolution, are, to all appearances, infinitely behind America. Such is the conclusion that one set of facts, and those the visible ones, lead to. But in sociology, as in biology, "temperature and atmospheric pressure", often unforeseen, may bring about startling results.

Even so short a period as barely twelve months ago, the bare thought of the gathering of the Zemstvos at St. Petersburg would have been a symptom of insanity; the thought in connection with and as the result of such a bolt from a clear sky as the Manchurian campaign Ohio can not be imagined to have occurred outside of a strait-jacket cell. And yet, not the thought but the fact is now in plain view of a startled world. What such a sudden "temperature and atmospheric pressure" may engender the imagination can not conceive. Europe is an anti-monarchic powder magazine. The sparks, that the conflagration of the Zemstvos' gathering will blow wide-ast, may create an explosion that may shake all Europe. It is in the conjunction of such explosions that the settling sediment of militant Socialists in Belgium, and their possible kindred in Berlin, in Austria, Italy and other European countries may, rise to a significance most undreamed of. It is in such conjunctions that the powers of Guesde will place him in a position that may determine the issue. Moreover, with undoubted Socialists at the head of the other Socialist Movements in Europe—and never forgetting that revolutionists ripen fast—who knows what surprises for America the near future carries in its folds?

In which event who would underestimate the importance, at such a juncture, of a Socialist Movement here in America, thoroughly organized, thoroughly drilled, unquillible, with the Revolution thoroughly pre-fected in its brain?

## THE GOLD SICKLE

AND THE INFANT'S SKULL  
These translations from Eugene Sue, by De Leon, will be published immediately.

Order for Christmas presents.  
50 cents each, with usual commission to sections.

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MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP, 25 CENTS A BOTTLE.

## BUSINESS DEPARTMENT NOTES

Two hundred subscriptions to the Weekly People were secured during the week ending Saturday, December 10th. A better showing than that of this week ought to be made. We have often urged the sections to use the prepaid subscription cards and we wish to remind them again of the advantage there is in using these cards. At the regular business meeting of the section money can be raised to buy a supply of sub-cards. Then they are distributed among the members who have paid for them; the members sell them and then the section buys another supply. The prepaid cards are convenient to use and they stimulate the work. Ten yearly cards are sold for \$5. Twenty half-yearly cards for \$5. Send in your orders.

Section Detroit took five hundred extra copies of the issue of October tenth for distribution among the workers of Detroit's "dope" industry. Belleville, Ill., took one hundred copies.

Five or more subs. were sent in as follows:

Section Cleveland, O., sixteen; Thirty-fourth Assembly District, New York, thirteen; Frank Bohn, Evansville, Ind., twelve; F. Fellerman, Hartford, Conn., seven; Section Yonkers, N. Y., five; Seattle, Washington, five; Philadelphia, five; G. A. Jennings, East St. Louis, Ill., five.

J. S. Weinberger, of Schenectady, N. Y., orders five copies for six months.

We quote rates for small bundle orders again:

5 copies 3 months ..... \$ .05  
5 copies 6 months ..... 1.30  
5 copies 1 year ..... 2.50  
10 copies 3 months ..... 1.30  
10 copies 6 months ..... 2.50  
10 copies 1 year ..... 5.00  
25 copies 3 months ..... 3.25  
25 copies 6 months ..... 6.25

Order a bundle now if you have not already done so. Hand your shopmates a sample copy. Get them acquainted with the paper and then get them to subscribe.

## LABOR NEWS NOTES.

The past week's record is interesting. Can't your section line up with the best?

San Antonio, Tex., took 175 pamphlets, assorted; J. A. Leach, Phoenix, Ariz., 100; Frank A. Bohn, National Organizer, seventy; Comrade Yarwood, Portland, Ore., thirty-three "Socialism" and 1,000 leaflets; and several others ordered a dollar's worth or so of literature.

Now for the books. Cleveland, Ohio, bought twenty-five "The Pilgrim's Shell"; Chicago, three "Capital"; Indianapolis, three "Pilgrim's Shell" and one "Socialism, Utopian and Scientific." Engels; Milwaukee sent \$4.65 for "Wage-Labor and Capital," "Pilgrim's Shell," and "Capital." Newport News, Va., ordered \$5 worth of cloth-bound books under the Christmas notice. Comrade Brandburg, Hennepin, Minn., took one "Capital." Hurry up, comrades. Rush this work before Christmas.

Marx's Capital is again obtainable, but now we are told that the supply is very limited.

"The Silver Cross" cannot be obtained. The publishers have been promising it to us in the near future for several weeks. Our information now is that it will be ready in three or four weeks. Orders on hand will be filled as soon as it is out.

## OF INTEREST TO BUFFALO.

"Labor" is the subject of a public lecture to be delivered this Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock by Attorney Hamilton Ward, Jr., at the Labor Lyceum, in Florence Parlors, 527 Main, near Genesee street. Mr. Ward is an active Republican stump speaker and the general discussion that will follow his talk on Labor is sure to be of an interesting and instructive character. Every man and woman is invited to be present. Admission is free.

A pedro party with dancing, entertainment and a general good time will be held by the Buffalo Section, S. L. P., on New Years Eve, Saturday, December 31st, at 8 p. m., in Florence Parlors, 527 Main street. Handsome prizes will be given to the lucky winners. Every friend of the S. L. P. in Buffalo should make it a point to meet this coming New Year, together with his family, in company with his fellow-Socialists in Florence Parlors. Tickets, good for coffee and cake, fifteen cents, can be had at the Labor Lyceum meetings, also for sale by comrades.

If you did not see the announcement of the Buffalo School of Socialism in last issue of the Weekly, take notice that such a school for a thorough and systematic study of sound, Socialist literature is now being conducted at S. L. P. headquarters, Old Y. M. C. A. building, 19 West Mohawk, corner Pearl streets, room 510, (top floor), every Wednesday at 8 p. m. sharp. A couple of dozen

men and women are getting the benefit of the instructive reading and discussions that take place there. Come and join them.

## NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FUND.